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Nabbed in Guatemala – by the Long Arm of the Internet

By Molly Moore
Washington Post Service

ANTIGUA, Guatemala — The gringos who live in this tiny tourist town of cobblestone streets and ancient church ruins knew Bill Young as "Mr. Fix-It," a handyman who could repair just about anything, from a washing machine to a helicopter engine.

But two weeks after John Biskovich signed up for Internet access here, his 14-year-old son made a shocking discovery on the FBI's home page. There, staring at him from a display of the FBI's 10 Most Wanted List, was Bill Young — the man who had always brought him a birthday present, the man who had repaired his mother's oven and advertised in his father's magazine, the man whose wife, Anna, had spent 18 months as his parents' bookkeeper.

But according to the FBI, Bill Young's real name is Leslie Isben Rogge, the man who bribed a jail guard and escaped from an Idaho lockup 11 years ago, who then robbed a string of banks across the United States and who was considered "armed and extremely dangerous."

"He just flipped out," said Mr. Biskovich of his son's reaction. "But he insisted we turn him in."

Less than a year after the FBI went on-line with its Most Wanted List and barely four months after Guatemala's state-run telephone company opened access to the Internet, Mr. Rogge became the first fugitive to be nabbed on the Net, suggesting that law enforcement agencies have a powerful new tool to use in tracking international criminals.

"This represents the end of the romantic notion that you can run south of the border and disappear," said Mary Jo McConahay, an American writer who lives two blocks from the jewelry shop once operated by Mr. Rogge's wife, whose real name is Judy Kay Wilson.

"A lot of people thought using the Internet would never fly in Central and South America," said Aaron Sánchez, the assistant special agent in charge of the FBI's Miami office, which covers much of Latin America. "But it did, because people are so hungry for news from the States."

Mr. Rogge, a 56-year-old former Marine who had dodged the law for 11 years, surrendered to U.S. authorities here on May 18. He told them he gave up out of fear that Guatemalan police might shoot him after a local newspaper revealed that he had been identified.

The revelation of Mr. Rogge's past deeply

See NET, Page 10

Reuters

FATAL LOTTERY — Thirteen people, six of whom won the flight in a drawing, died Thursday when a German military helicopter giving rides at a youth festival crashed near Dortmund.

China Drops Condition to Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

But Beijing Links Move to Concession On Blast Detection

By Barbara Crossette
New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York — China on Thursday abandoned its demand that an international treaty to ban nuclear testing should exempt "peaceful" explosions, which Beijing said were needed for scientific and economic development.

The Chinese concession, announced in Geneva in a speech by Sha Zukang, China's chief delegate to an international disarmament conference, removed a significant hurdle to the signing this year of a pact banning nuclear tests worldwide.

Although China continues to argue that nuclear explosions should be allowed for such civilian purposes as large construction projects, a decision on the issue could be put off for as long as a decade. Independent nuclear experts said they thought that Beijing would not try to conduct such tests once the treaty is in place, although it might conduct weapons tests before signing the pact.

[A minister-counselor at the Chinese Embassy in Tokyo, Wu Dawei, said Thursday that China would soon conduct a nuclear test for the first time since last August, Agence France-Presse reported. "The date and time might shift depending on various conditions, but the test will be conducted in the near future," Mr. Wu was quoted as telling Kanju Sato, secretary-general of Japan's Social Democratic Party.]

The United States reacted warily to the Chinese announcement because Mr. Sha appeared in his speech to link the concession to a demand for restrictions on the detection systems that could be used to trigger on-site inspections when nations are suspected of illegal testing.

In an interview Thursday, John D. Holum, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, said that the Chinese demand could "cripple the verification system" and make it easier for illegal tests to be conducted.

"They are essentially giving up something that isn't going anywhere and demanding in exchange for that some big rewards," he said. "The rewards would work in favor of someone trying to conduct a clandestine nuclear test."

The United States has argued in

See CHINA, Page 10

Automakers Tailor an 'Asia Car' for Newest Target Market

By Andrew Pollack
New York Times Service

TOKYO — Though Honda's new City subcompact is priced to fit the pocketbooks of Asia's emerging middle class, is designed to withstand the pounding of Asia's muddy roads and is being assembled in Thailand, the company refuses to call it an "Asia car." Engineers who utter the forbidden words must contribute money to the office coffee pool.

Why is Honda being so coy? Simple: it does not want buyers in the world's fastest-growing car market to think they are being shortchanged with a stripped-down version of the Civic or other cars that Honda sells to more affluent customers at home and in the West.

The company took pains to give the City the fashionably squared contours of its fancier cars.

"We don't want it to look cheap," Executive Chief Engineer Tomoyuki Sugiyama said. "In some ways, it looks better than the Civic."

But whatever Honda calls it, others call the City an Asia car. Such vehicles are the latest weapons in the battle among the world's carmakers for a region that is shaping up to be the most promising market into the 21st century.

From Bombay to Beijing and all across Southeast Asia, exploding economic growth is creating legions of first-time car buyers. Excluding Japan and South Korea — two relatively mature markets — sales of new vehicles in East Asia surged 17 percent last year, to 4 million.

That is only about one quarter the size of the U.S. market and a little more than half the size of Japan's. But while sales are stagnant in the richer countries, they are expected to double in Asia by the year 2000, making it the land of opportunity and a gateway to the rest of the developing world.

So far, most companies sell existing models to Asia. But some, like Honda, are trying to gain an edge by designing a car tailored to the region's social habits and geographic traits — a car cheap enough for $3,000-a-year salaries, roomy enough for families with several kids, sturdy enough for rocky mountain roads, practical enough to eliminate such unnecessary features as heaters and sleek enough to look as if it belongs in a suburban American driveway.

Japanese companies are leading the way, hoping to cement their dominance in a region they regard as their backyard.

"With the Asia cars, you have first-time buyers, and you know what that means" about building brand loyalty, said Michael Dunne, president of Auto-

See CAR, Page 10

AGENDA

Chechen Talks Are Extended

NAZRAN, Russia (Reuters) — Talks between Russian and Chechen separatist delegates trying to end the 18-month conflict in the southern Russian region of Chechnya adjourned without agreement Thursday, delegates said.

Negotiators are to meet again Sunday. They have been trying to agree on two documents: a prisoner exchange and a Russian withdrawal from the mostly Muslim region in return for rebel disarmament.

ASIA Page 4.
Inner Mongolia Warns Separatists

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EU Disputes U.K. on Beef Ban

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Books Page 9. *Sports* Pages 22-23.

Dow Jones	Trib Index
Down	Down
30.29	0.15%
5687.19	137.20

The Dollar

New York,	Thurs. close	previous close
DM	1.529	1.5305
Pound	1.5433	1.549
Yen	109.205	109.045
FF	5.18	5.186

Newsstand Prices

Andorra	10.00 FF	Lebanon	L.L. 3,000
Antilles	12.50 FF	Morocco	14 Dh
Cameroon	1,600 CFA	Qatar	10.00 Riala
Egypt	£E 5	Réunion	12.50 FF
France	10.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R.
Gabon	1100 CFA	Senegal	1,100 CFA
Greece	350 Dr.	Spain	225 PTAS
Italy	2,800 Lire	Tunisia	1,250 Dln
Ivory Coast	1,250 CFA	U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
Jordan	1,250 JD	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$1.20

Agence France-Presse

Relatives weeping Thursday at the grave of Attia Abu Samra, a Palestinian shot by soldiers during the night outside a Jewish settlement in the Gaza Strip.

Non-Orthodox Israelis Are Bracing for a 'Culture War'

By John Lancaster
Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM — At Tower Records here, beneath the smoky gaze of Madonna, teenagers browse the latest CDs from Bon Jovi and U2, then head next door for a cheeseburger at McDonald's. Nearby is a chic clothing boutique called "Yuppies."

But don't be fooled by appearances: Traditional Jewish values still prevail in this holiest of cities, and after strong gains by religious parties in national elections last week, defenders of secular Western culture in Israel fear the worst.

"It's a culture war," said Elad Levram, 26, a sales clerk at Tower Records who sports an enameled stud in his left earlobe. "They want me to be a good Jew according to their values. How can you negotiate with this? Live and let live — it's not what they think."

Fabrice Schomberg, 18, who studies jazz piano at a high-school conservatory, predicted, "A lot of people will leave the country."

Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox Jews — who are distinguished from other practitioners of Judaism by their belief in strict adherence to Jewish law — exercise growing influence, particularly in Jerusalem. But so-called secular Jews still constitute a large majority of Israel's 4 million or so Jewish citizens.

Moreover, spokesmen for the three main religious parties — Shas, the National Religious Party and United Torah Judaism, which represent Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox interests — say they have no interest in intruding on the private lives of others.

Their goal, they say, is to protect the Jewish character of the state while addressing the specific needs of their own constituents, such as education and housing.

"They shouldn't be afraid of us," said Rabbi Abraham Ravitz, the second-

See ISRAEL, Page 10

Dole Stages Doomed Vote On the Deficit

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — In a vote that was more about drawing campaign battle lines than remaking U.S. fiscal policy, the Senate again rejected a constitutional amendment Thursday that would have required Congress to balance the budget.

The vote was 64 to 35. Sixty-six votes were needed to send the measure to states for ratification.

All but one of the 53 Republican senators backed the proposal; Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon was the lone dissenter. Of the 47 Democrats, 12 voted for the amendment.

The Senate majority leader, Bob Dole, had indicated that the symbolism of the vote was as important as the outcome, which he did not expect to win. It was, some analysts said, an engineered loss calculated to embarrass Democrats.

"It's not whether you win or lose," Mr. Dole said before the vote, "but whether you've made the statement."

The presumptive Republican nominee for president had challenged President Bill Clinton to support the amendment or admit, in effect, that a balanced budget was a low priority for Democrats.

In remarks on the White House lawn,

See VOTE, Page 10

Malawi Healer's AIDS Potion Mutates Into a Recipe for Disaster

By Suzanne Daley
New York Times Service

LIWONDE, Malawi — It is midday at Billy Chisupe's compound, five rutted miles off the last paved road, deep in the hot countryside.

In the carefully swept dirt yard there are three huts, one slightly bigger than the rest and surrounded by a veranda kept shady by a grass roof.

It is there that a battered 10-gallon drum sits holding a rust-colored liquid. In the last 18 months, government officials estimate, nearly a million people have made a pilgrimage to this spot hoping to be protected from AIDS.

There are many African healers who claim they can cure AIDS, a disease that is ravaging the continent. Some do it to get rich, like the government officials in Kenya who were caught selling one such potion from government health clinics.

But Mr. Chisupe offers his "cure" free of charge, a fact that officials in this tiny country in southern Africa said makes him particularly dangerous. His work is a case study of the medical disaster that ensues when a quack cure, however well-intentioned, is taken up by thousands of people who abandon Western medical advice.

Later, seeing friends die or their own bodies waste away, the people realized that Mr. Chisupe's secret concoction was no cure at all, but then it was too late.

Health officials said that years of work educating Malawians about AIDS were destroyed by Mr. Chisupe, 79, a farmer who said his formula came to him in a dream. People grew to believe that his liquid was not only a cure, but also a vaccine against AIDS, and gave up using condoms to prevent infection.

At the height of the frenzy over his claims, his compound was overrun with the sick and dying. The government grew so concerned about the possibility of cholera and dysentery outbreaks that

See CURE, Page 10

Charlesfort / **A Huguenot Refuge**

Site of a Failed French Colony Is Unearthed in U.S.

By John Noble Wilford
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In an attempt to establish a refuge for Huguenots fleeing religious persecution and to challenge Spanish power in what is now the Southeastern United States, France in 1562 dispatched an expedition of two ships and 150 men under Jean Ribaut. Somewhere along the coast of present-day South Carolina, Ribaut decided to build a fort overlooking a harbor he called "one of the greatest and fairest havens in the world."

This was the first attempt by the French to plant a colony on land that is now part of the United States. It came three years before the founding by Spain of St. Augustine in what is now Florida, North America's first permanent European settlement outside Mexico. It would be more than two decades before the English attempted to settle at Roanoke Island in North Carolina and 45 years before the first successful English settlement at Jamestown in Virginia in 1607.

Ribaut named the garrison Charlesfort, for the 12-year-old French king, Charles IX, but the colony foundered in less than a year. The fort was abandoned and disappeared, seemingly without a trace. Over the centuries, historians have speculated on the fort's location, and explorers and archeologists have searched the coast in vain.

Now, just as they were running out of places to look, archeologists from the University of South Carolina in Columbia said they have uncovered the site of Charlesfort. It is under the edge of a golf course on the Marine Corps training base at Parris Island, near Beaufort, and across Port Royal Sound from Hilton Head. The French fort had escaped detection in modern times because the Spanish, moving in 1566 to restore control over the region, had built the town of Santa Elena and a fort, San Felipe, over the ruins.

Chester DePratter and Stanley A. South, professors at the university's Institute of Archeology and Anthropology, made the discovery late last year while excavating the 20-acre site of Santa Elena. A combination of archeological and documentary clues led them and a colleague, James Legg, to suspect that Santa Elena had been built on the Charlesfort site, and a re-examination of ceramics found earlier at the site revealed that they were not only French but from the 16th century. This seemed to clinch matters.

"It's been a puzzle for decades, and I've been looking for the fort since 1979," Mr. DePratter said in a telephone interview. "Now the riddle is solved. We know where Charlesfort is."

The discovery was important, Mr. DePratter and Mr. South said, because the French outpost not only was strategically significant when the French and Spanish were competing for control of what is now the Southeastern United States, but also startled the Spanish into strengthening their hold on the region with new forts and settlements.

"Despite the fact that Charlesfort's occupation was brief, its construction triggered a strong Spanish military response that resulted in the destruction of the 1564-65 French settlement on the St. John's River in Florida, as well as the settling of St. Augustine and Santa Elena by the Spanish," Mr. DePratter said.

Historians and archeologists familiar with the research agreed that the mystery of Charlesfort had very likely been solved.

Eugene Lyon, a scholar of early colonial history at Flagler College in St. Augustine, said the evidence supporting the discovery appeared to be strong, though he tended to minimize the influence of Charlesfort on subsequent Spanish actions. He noted that this French threat had been erased before the Spanish even knew of its existence. Instead, Mr. Lyon thought the second Huguenot colonizing attempt, in 1564 at Fort Caroline on the St. John's River near present-day Jacksonville, Florida, caused the Spanish more consternation and led to a quickening of their settlement efforts.

Ivor Noel Hume, retired director of archeology at Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia, examined the excavated ceramics and confirmed that they were 16th-century French. He praised the archeologists for succeeding "in the difficult task of separating the traces of Charlesfort from those of the Spaniards' Fort San Felipe."

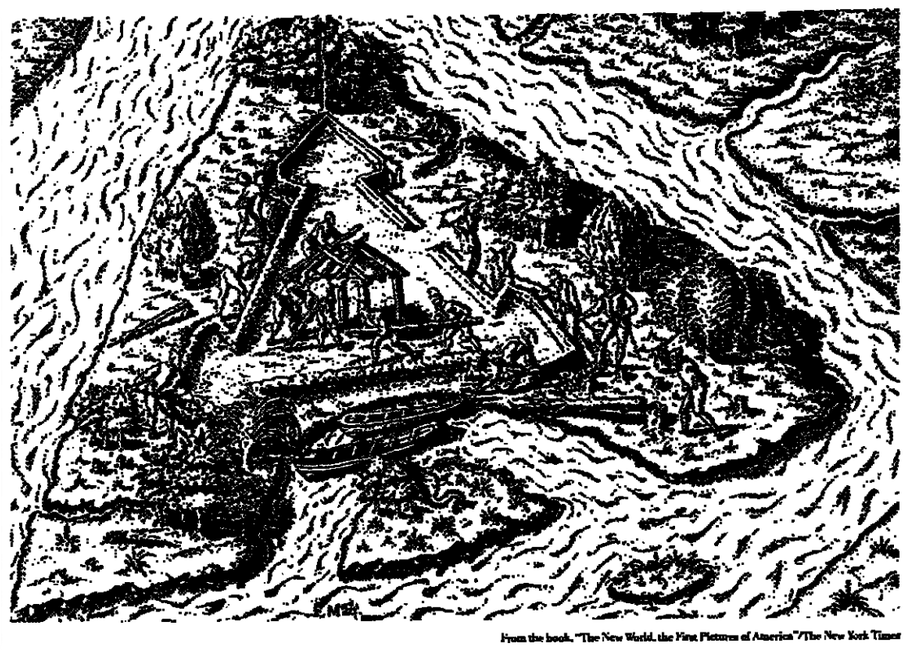
"No longer will France in the New World be epitomized only by Quebec and New Orleans," Mr. Noel Hume said.

It may be a stretch to compare Charlesfort with Quebec. Ribaut said the fort he built measured "in length but sixteen fathoms and thirteen in breadth" — 96 feet by 78 feet (about 30 meters by 25). A moat surrounded the palisade, and bastions serving as gun platforms stood at the four corners, though a 16th-century drawing showed only three bastions. A house of wood and earth, with a straw roof, was erected inside the fort.

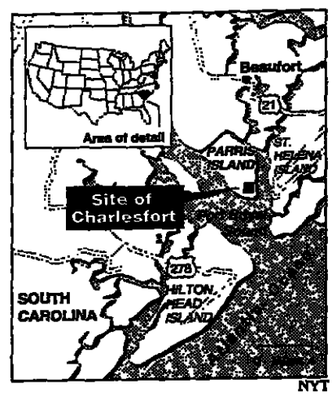
As soon as construction was completed in early June 1562, Ribaut left for France to obtain supplies and recruit more settlers. He left Albert de la Pierria in charge of 26 men and promised to return in six months. But France was in the throes of civil war and was no place for a Protestant. So Ribaut went to England for help, and was imprisoned as a spy.

As the months dragged on, morale back at Charlesfort sank lower and lower. A fire destroyed most of the supplies. Mutineers killed de la Pierria, built a ship and sailed for France in April 1563, only 11 months after Ribaut had brought them to the new land. The only member of the colony to remain in the New World was a boy named Ruffi, who had run away and taken refuge among Indians. It was he who later told a Spanish expedition of the failed French enterprise.

In 1566, one year after starting St. Augustine, the Spanish began building the town of Santa Elena on Parris Island and placed Fort San Felipe exactly over the ruins of Charlesfort, making use of the moat the French had left behind. This colony lasted 21 years, and for a time served as the capital of Spanish Florida. Santa Elena, too, was a long-lost colony, found in 1979 by archeologists led by Mr. South of the University of South Carolina.



From the book, "The New World, the First Pictures of America"/The New York Times



NYT

A 16th-century engraving shows Charlesfort, the short-lived French colony on the South Carolina coast. The site, long obscured, was recently found by two American archeologists.

Lagos Presses Investigation Into Slaying of Abiola's Wife

Reuters

LAGOS — Nigeria's most senior detective is heading the investigation into the murder of the wife of a detained millionaire politician, which has sent political shockwaves through the volatile African nation.

"Archibong Nkana is our best man and he is leading the investigation which is already in full swing," a police official said Thursday. Mr. Nkana is deputy inspector general of police in charge of Alagbon Close, the Nigerian equivalent of Scotland Yard.

Nigeria's military government is under international pressure to find the killers of Kudirat Abiola, the senior wife of the detained presidential claimant, Moshood K. O.Abiola. She was shot in the head while in her car on a Lagos street on Tuesday.

Mrs. Abiola, who had campaigned for validation of the results of the 1993 presidential election that her husband is believed to have won, was buried at the family home on Wednesday amidst much anger from Mr. Abiola's political supporters.

Her eldest daughter, Hafsat, in a television interview in the United States where she is a law student, vowed to take up her mother's "struggle."

She said demonstrations would continue in Nigeria, where her father has been detained since 1994, but added: "With the military there is a limit to what the people can do."

Western Nigeria, Mr. Abiola's political stronghold, has been tense, as thousands of people openly decried the murder.

Ibadan University was shut down on Wednesday and students were given a few hours to vacate the campus after a protest demonstration.

A delegation to the Abiola family from the military ruler, General Sani Abacha, on Wednesday was politely received but many within the Abiola mansion booed and cursed the government.

General Abacha deplored the murder as "another in the rising wave of terrorist attacks and violence in the country."

Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation, has been in crisis since Mr. Abiola's supposed election victory was annulled by a previous military government. General Abacha seized power in the crisis that ensued and has promised to relinquish power in 1998.

The police said, contrary to earlier reports, that Mrs. Abiola's driver, who was also shot, was still alive and in the hospital.

For Mr. Abiola, one of Africa's richest men, the murder is the latest in a string of blows since he was detained in the capital, Abuja, for defying the authorities.

His vast business empire is suffering and his brother and sister have both died while the family was feuding over which of Nigeria's top lawyers should represent him in the tangled suits over his detention and treason trial.

U.S. Isolated in the Americas for Tighter Embargo Against Cuba

By Larry Rohter
New York Times Service

PANAMA CITY — In a display of near unanimity, the countries of the Organization of American States, here for their annual meeting, singled out the United States, criticizing the recent extension of the economic embargo against Cuba as a probable violation of international law.

The criticism came in the form of a resolution aimed at the Helms-Burton Law, which President Bill Clinton signed into law in March.

A vote Tuesday on the measure, which had 32 co-sponsors, ended with the United States, traditionally the organization's dominant force, as the sole dissenter. The U.S. government was dismayed at the outcome.

Cuba was "excluded" from the organization in 1962 as part of an American diplomatic effort to isolate Fidel Castro and the Communist government he continues to lead.

Since then, Cuban officials and the state-controlled press have regularly ridiculed the organization as a claque of subservient puppets manipulated by the United States.

In Havana, a spokesman for the Cuban Foreign Ministry said this week's OAS resolution "was really a surprise," and thanked OAS members for their support.

The Helms-Burton legislation tightened the 35-year-old economic embargo against Cuba by allowing American citizens to sue foreign companies that "traffic" in property seized from Americans and denies executives of those companies the right to enter the United States.

The OAS resolution is directed against all laws that "obstruct international trade and investment" or "the free movement of persons."

In addition, the Inter-American Juridical Committee, an independent body that advises the OAS on legal matters, was asked to "examine the validity under international law" of Helms-Burton and to prepare a "judgment" as soon as possible.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Paris Transport Nearly Normal Despite Communist-Led Strike

PARIS (AFP) — Several thousand rail workers assembled in central Paris for a protest march on Thursday, but their day of action against feared restructuring and job losses had little effect on train services and the Paris Métro.

Traffic was virtually normal on the Métro, and 95 percent of city buses were running despite a call by the Communist-led CGT trade union for its members to walk off the job, the mass transit company said.

The state railway company SNCF said main line rail services were normal, with the exception of a single cancellation of a train between Paris and Nevers, central France. There was little disruption of suburban commuter lines, the railroad said.

The day of action was part of a week of industrial protests, in which tens of thousands took to the streets of the French capital Wednesday.

Indonesia to Let In Tourists' Cars

JAKARTA (AP) — In an attempt to encourage tourism, Indonesia will begin letting visitors bring their cars with them, Antara, the official news agency, reported Thursday.

The change is aimed at attracting family groups from neighboring countries such as Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines, Antara quoted Tourism Minister Joop Ave as saying. The number of tourists visiting Indonesia is expected to grow 27 percent this year to 5.5 million, while tourist spending is expected to grow 32 percent to $6.9 billion.

Prime Minister Akezhan Kazhegeldin of Kazakstan signed a decree transferring management of Almaty's state-owned airport to Lufthansa, the German company's general manager said. A Lufthansa subsidiary will take over management by the end of the week. *(AP)*

Ghana Airways will start extra weekly flights to New York, London and Johannesburg this month, a company official said. *(Reuters)*

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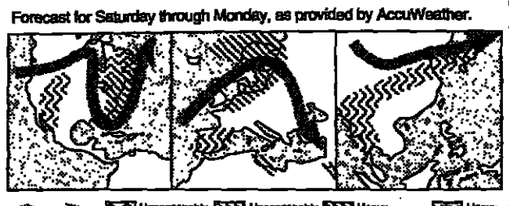
WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by AccuWeather.



North America
Warm and humid over the weekend in New York City and Washington, D.C., with a few showers and thunderstorms. Showery and turning cool in Toronto. Cool and mainly dry in Chicago. Hot and dry in Phoenix, Denver and Dallas. Cooling off a bit in Los Angeles.

Europe
Dry weather is likely in London Saturday through Monday. Comfortable over the weekend, then warmer on Monday. Paris may have a shower Saturday; then Sunday and Monday will be warm with some sunshine. Warm and rain-free in Lisbon, Madrid, Rome and Athens.

Asia
Hot and humid in Taiwan and Hong Kong with little or no rain. Warm in Tokyo with an increasing chance for showers. Some rain is likely in Seoul, especially Sunday and Monday, but Shanghai will have showers each day. Singapore will be muggy and hot with a couple of thunderstorms.

Europe

	Today High	Today Low	W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low	W
	C/F	C/F		C/F	C/F	
Algarve	29/79	16/61	s	23/73	16/61	pc
Amsterdam	23/73	18/64	s	23/73	17/62	c
Antwerp	21/70	8/46	c	20/68	12/53	s
Athens	28/82	19/66	s	29/84	20/68	s
Barcelona	24/73	17/62	pc	23/77	17/62	pc
Belgrade	25/84	14/57	pc	31/88	18/68	pc
Berlin	29/84	15/59	s	31/88	19/64	s
Brussels	25/82	19/66	c	27/80	17/62	c
Budapest	31/88	16/61	s	33/91	21/70	s
Copenhagen	20/68	15/61	pc	23/84	19/64	s
Costa Del Sol	27/80	19/66	s	28/79	18/64	pc
Dublin	16/61	13/55	r	17/62	11/52	sh
Edinburgh	14/57	13/55	r	18/61	13/55	sh
Florence	29/79	17/62	c	28/82	17/62	pc
Frankfurt	31/88	16/61	s	33/91	19/66	s
Geneva	29/78	18/61	pc	27/80	17/62	pc
Helsinki	18/61	11/52	r	21/70	13/55	pc
Istanbul	24/75	14/57	pc	23/84	18/64	s
Las Palmas	24/75	18/64	s	24/75	18/64	s
Lisbon	24/75	17/62	s	21/70	15/59	c
London	27/80	18/64	s	27/80	18/61	pc
Madrid	28/82	19/61	s	30/86	14/57	pc
Milan	29/82	18/64	pc	30/86	19/66	s
Moscow	19/66	10/50	c	22/71	10/50	pc
Munich	29/79	14/57	pc	27/80	18/61	c
Nice	24/75	18/64	pc	28/79	19/64	pc
Oslo	20/68	10/50	s	23/73	18/61	pc
Palma de Mallorca	22/71	19/66	pc	24/75	20/68	pc
Paris	30/86	20/68	s	30/86	17/62	pc
Prague	28/84	13/55	s	30/86	17/62	s
Reykjavik	11/52	8/46	c	11/52	6/43	r
Rome	25/77	17/62	t	28/79	17/62	pc
St. Petersburg	19/66	8/46	sh	22/71	10/50	pc
Stockholm	18/64	11/52	sh	21/70	13/55	pc
Strasbourg	25/84	20/68	pc	29/84	19/64	c
Tallinn	15/61	11/52	r	21/70	12/53	pc
Venice	27/80	19/66	pc	28/84	21/70	pc
Vienna	27/80	13/55	s	29/84	16/64	s
Warsaw	29/84	12/53	s	33/91	17/62	s
Zurich	29/79	17/62	c	29/82	17/62	c

Oceania

Auckland	17/62	10/50	pc	17/62	11/52	pc
Sydney	17/62	8/46	pc	16/61	9/48	pc

Middle East

	Today High	Today Low	W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low	W
	C/F	C/F		C/F	C/F	
Abu Dhabi	39/102	27/80	s	39/100	27/80	s
Beirut	27/80	19/66	s	28/84	21/70	s
Cairo	32/89	13/55	s	35/95	19/66	s
Damascus	34/93	12/53	s	31/88	14/57	s
Jerusalem	29/82	16/61	s	29/82	17/62	s
Luxor	37/98	19/61	s	41/106	19/64	s
Riyadh	38/100	24/75	s	41/106	24/75	s

Africa

	Today High	Today Low	W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low	W
	C/F	C/F		C/F	C/F	
Algiers	23/73	17/62	pc	28/79	19/66	s
Cape Town	22/71	13/55	s	13/55	7/44	sh
Casablanca	28/79	16/61	s	23/73	16/61	s
Harare	17/62	10/50	t	18/64	11/52	t
Lagos	29/84	23/73	c	29/84	24/75	c
Nairobi	18/64	11/52	c	23/73	12/53	c
Tunis	18/64	17/62	t	21/70	15/59	s

Asia

	Today High	Today Low	W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low	W
	C/F	C/F		C/F	C/F	
Bangkok	34/93	25/77	pc	34/93	26/79	pc
Beijing	30/86	18/61	pc	32/89	19/66	pc
Hong Kong	31/88	25/79	pc	31/88	26/79	pc
Manila	33/91	23/73	pc	33/91	23/73	pc
New Delhi	42/107	27/80	pc	44/111	31/88	s
Seoul	30/86	17/62	s	29/79	19/66	t
Shanghai	28/79	24/75	sh	29/84	23/73	c
Singapore	32/89	23/73	sh	32/89	23/73	c
Taipei	31/88	24/75	pc	32/89	24/75	sh
Tokyo	24/75	19/59	pc	24/75	19/61	s

Latin America

Buenos Aires	17/62	7/44	pc	16/61	7/44	pc
Caracas	29/84	22/71	sh	31/88	23/77	sh
Lima	18/64	16/61	pc	13/55	16/61	pc
Mexico City	25/77	13/55	t	24/75	12/53	pc
Rio de Janeiro	24/75	18/64	pc	23/77	18/64	pc
Santiago	23/73	0/32	pc	20/68	3/35	pc

North America

Anchorage	20/68	10/50	pc	19/66	9/48	pc
Atlanta	30/86	20/68	s	30/86	18/64	pc
Boston	24/75	15/61	s	28/79	15/59	c
Chicago	24/75	17/62	t	23/73	11/52	pc
Denver	26/79	9/48	s	31/88	14/57	s
Detroit	23/73	17/62	t	23/73	13/55	sh
Honolulu	32/89	23/73	pc	30/86	23/73	pc
Houston	33/91	21/70	pc	33/91	21/70	pc
Los Angeles	29/84	18/64	pc	30/86	18/64	pc
Miami	31/88	23/73	t	31/88	24/75	t
Minneapolis	22/71	10/50	sh	23/73	14/57	pc
Montreal	23/73	9/48	pc	22/71	9/48	sh
Nassau	30/86	23/73	t	29/84	24/75	pc
New York	27/80	18/64	pc	30/86	18/64	c
Phoenix	44/111	29/82	s	46/115	29/82	s
San Fran.	22/73	12/53	s	23/73	13/55	pc
Seattle	22/71	11/52	pc	21/70	11/52	c
Toronto	22/71	9/48	t	21/70	11/52	sh
Vancouver	19/66	11/52	pc	19/66	11/52	sh
Washington	29/84	19/66	pc	30/86	18/66	t

Legends: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, Hca, W-Weather. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©1996

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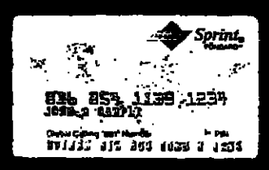

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THE AMERICAS

Central Park: When Crime Violates Sacred Ground

By Paul Goldberger
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — New Yorkers view Central Park with a stunning inconsistency. They will tell you it is full of risk, but they treat it like their cathedral. And when crimes like Tuesday's savage beating of a woman occur within the sacred glade, they respond with the shock and horror of those whose sanctuary has been despoiled.

So, even though serious crimes committed within the park's 840 acres (340 hectares) are relatively rare, each one receives the attention of a major event. New Yorkers remember the murder of a Brazilian-born shoe clerk in the park last September, or the rape of the woman known as the Central Park jogger in 1989, with a clarity and a sense of urgency that exceeds that of crimes of even greater scope elsewhere.

The park puts such events in high relief.

Had the still-unidentified woman beaten Tuesday been attacked a block away rather than within the park's confines, her case would have been no less brutal, but the city would barely have paused to notice. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani did not, after all, visit the site of the double murder of a couple in Jackson Heights, Queens, which also took place Tuesday.

The newspapers barely noticed that an unidentified man in the Bronx and another in Brooklyn were both killed by handguns Tuesday, yet many of them devoted their front covers and several inside pages to probing every detail of what they called, in similar headlines, the "horror" that occurred in Central Park near West 82d Street.

The day after the crime, there were 11 police cars at the corner of Central Park West and 81st Street, and police officers inside the park were as thick as subway passengers at rush hour.

Violent crime in Central Park disturbs an unspoken premise by which almost all American life proceeds, which is the notion that streets are dangerous but nature is safe.

Even in New York, which revels in its hard-edged urban life, the park connotes not urbanity but an escape from it. The park is where New Yorkers go to demand asylum from city life.

To be in Central Park is not to be in New York but to be suspended magically beside it, freed of the city's tensions, protected from its risks.

Or so the collective myth would have it. In fact, in expressing such surprise at each occurrence of violent crime within the park, New Yorkers are merely joining the rest of the country in believing that nature guarantees a safe refuge from the inherent danger that cities present.

But as small, quiet towns can sometimes have dangers far greater than those of busy city streets, so Central Park has always been more of a psychological sanctuary than a real one.

To strike within the park, it often seems, is to damage the city's soul. The park was conceived in the mid-19th century as New York's sacred ground, born of the romantic yearnings of the transcendental movement, which held that closeness to nature was an urgent priority for civilized life.

Central Park was to be, years before Thoreau, Walden Pond for the masses.

The park's first commissioners, in a report clarifying its purpose in 1867, described it as being designed "to dispel from the mind of the visitors, once within its enclosure, thoughts of business and memories calculated to sadden or oppress."

"It is a pleasure ground," the report said.

■ Victim Still Critical

The woman who was beaten remained in critical condition on Thursday, The Associated Press reported.

"Somewhere out there, there is somebody who knows her, somebody who is missing her," Police Commissioner Howard Safir said.

Witnesses saw a man in a heated argument with a woman at about the time the victim was beaten, and some witnesses heard screaming before seeing the man flee.

The police were preparing a sketch of the suspect. They believe he knew the victim, who appears to be in her 20s.

POLITICAL NOTES

Clinton Turns Tables on Dole

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton and congressional Democrats have turned up the heat on the Senate majority leader, Bob Dole, to put aside presidential politicking and produce some legislative results before he leaves Capitol Hill on Tuesday.

They have challenged Mr. Dole's determination to focus on issues that define differences between him and Mr. Clinton, such as a constitutional amendment for a balanced-budget and legislation to create a national missile defense system.

Instead, they have insisted that he wind up his congressional career by producing legislation the president could sign, such as a health care bill that bogged down after passing both houses this year. *(WP)*

More on O'Leary's Travels

WASHINGTON — Energy Secretary Hazel R. O'Leary spent $600,000 more than previously estimated on hotels, entertainment, receptions and other travel costs during trade missions to South Africa and three other foreign countries, according to a detailed internal investigation of her extensive foreign travel.

The six-month inquiry into Mrs. O'Leary's four trade missions and 12 other trips abroad indicates a record of widespread mismanagement, including the invitation of nearly two dozen individuals who were not authorized for the trips, hotel bills that were paid twice and record-keeping that was so shoddy the Energy Department could not even identify who went on which trips.

In a statement, Mrs. O'Leary said she accepted "responsibility for the identified accounting and administration problems," adding, "I have already directed that action be taken to fix these problems." *(WP)*

Senator D'Amato's Bull Market

WASHINGTON — A brokerage firm with a long history of questionable trading practices bent its own rules to help Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato reap a $37,000 profit on a one-day stock deal, the Securities and Exchange Commission has concluded.

A confidential SEC report, first reported in the Wall Street Journal on Thursday, said the New York Republican's dealings with Stratton Oakmont Inc. of Lake Success, New York, were "atypical in several ways."

The report makes no mention of any wrongdoing by Mr. D'Amato. "This is an old story," the senator said in a statement today. "Almost three years ago, I took the proper actions to avoid even the appearance of impropriety."

Quote/Unquote

Michael McCurry, White House spokesman, after President Bill Clinton on Thursday announced a $200 reduction in closing costs for homes, a day after proposing a $1,500-a-student tax credit for the first two years of college: "It's been American dream week: college education and home ownership." *(AP)*

Nelson Warfield, Bob Dole's press secretary, on the $200 savings: "It's chump change compared to how much Clinton has raised costs on all homebuyers this year by refusing to sign a balanced budget. Mortgage rates have jumped by a full percentage point, costing the average homeowner an additional $918 in interest payments each year." *(AP)*

Rumors of the Antichrist's Coming Panic Bogotá

Pedro Ugarte/Agence France-Presse

Catholics gathering at a church in Bogotá hoping to have their children baptized.

By Diana Jean Schemo
New York Times Service

BOGOTA — The Church of the 20th of July is normally a haven where the faithful gather beneath soaring arches to ponder God and pray. But this week the church echoed with the wails of babies and the exhortations of an exasperated priest as parents rushed to have their children baptized.

A pamphlet warned Bogotanos last week that the Antichrist would claim their unbaptized children on Thursday. Although the predictions were made by a Protestant fundamentalist group, many parents in this predominantly Roman Catholic country panicked, and thousands rushed to baptize their children over the past week.

The emergency baptisms were reported on television news over the weekend, in accounts that included scenes from horror films including "The Omen" and "Rosemary's Baby."

An afternoon news program followed the report on the baptisms with another on children being kidnapped for organ trafficking — a persistent Latin American scare story that has been investigated and discredited by the United Nations. The hysteria grew.

"They showed the Antichrist on television," said Sonia Maldonado, 24, who stood in the church in tears. Mrs. Maldonado, the mother of 6-year-old twins, said she and her sons had panicked upon seeing the television news. She is four months pregnant.

"I'm afraid the Antichrist will mark my children or take them away," she said, and looked down at her abdomen. "Maybe something will happen to my baby on June 6. I'm afraid it will be the Antichrist."

The rumor, said the Reverend Carlos Mario Alcate, director of the Catholic Church's department of doctrine, appeared to have started with a Protestant fundamentalist sect that predicts that the second millennium will bring a final, terrible showdown between good and evil, as predicted in the last book of the New Testament.

The rumor has taken several forms. In one, the Antichrist's birth was expected, a prediction that has terrified pregnant women due to give birth this week. In another, an evil being will possess children unprotected by baptism and mark them with a sign. And in yet another rumor, the Antichrist will steal children from their parents.

"It's very dangerous because it spreads fear among people and reflects the absence of a sense of maturity," Father Alcate said. "It denies the individual responsibility for his own actions, for his role on earth."

But Father Alcate also said the panic coincided with a moral compass that appears to have gone haywire, as a discredited legislature prepares to declare that drug dealers did not bankroll President Ernesto Samper's election — contrary to what a majority of people surveyed said they believe. In the countryside, violence and lawlessness leave people frightened and unsure of who among the guerrillas, paramilitary groups and the army is in league with whom.

"Moral principles are in eclipse," Father Alcate said. "The Catholic Church has lost its presence in many areas, and so people are looking for stronger religious influences."

New U.S. Census Plans Under Attack

By Steven A. Holmes
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Three months after it introduced revolutionary plans for improving the nation's head count in the year 2000, the Census Bureau is being challenged by minority groups and some Republicans.

The minority groups say the new technique planned by the bureau would worsen, not lessen, the problem of undercounting the nation's black and Hispanic population.

The Republicans say that would result in improperly drawn legislative districts.

Last week, Representative Carrie P. Meek, Democrat of Florida, who is black, introduced a bill that would forbid the Census Bureau to proceed with its plan to count at least 90 percent of the households in each county, and then use statistical sampling to estimate those missed. She proposed an alternative statistical method for estimating the uncounted population.

On Wednesday, Representative Thomas E. Petri, Republican of Wisconsin, introduced legislation that would prohibit the Census Bureau from applying sampling techniques of any kind to determine the population.

Mr. Petri said the bureau should do whatever it takes to obtain an accurate count, without relying on sampling.

The twin challenges to the bureau's plans add to the burdens on an agency that is under pressure to increase the accuracy of the next census, hold down costs and, at the same time, respond to the concerns of lawmakers, who generally have little understanding of statistical methods and whose districts are drawn on census findings.

The Census Bureau has acknowledged that the 1990 census left many Americans uncounted, particularly those members of minority groups in central cities. It was to correct that problem that the bureau decided to use a sampling method for the first time to determine the nation's official population.

But critics of the proposal say it could result in an even larger minority undercount. In the 1990 Census, the number of blacks uncounted was six times greater than the number of uncounted whites, the largest undercount differential in a half century.

Ms. Meek, like others in minority groups, argues that under the bureau's plans, census takers in counties containing a minority-dominated city and predominantly white suburbs might reach the 90 percent threshold by counting virtually all the white suburbanites but a much lower percentage of the minority inner-city dwellers.

Should that occur, statisticians agree, there is a greater chance for error when estimating the missed minority population than when estimating uncounted whites.

The Meek bill would require the Census Bureau to count 90 percent of the households in each census tract — a unit that is much smaller and tends to be more ethnically homogeneous than a county — and then use statistical sampling methods to estimate the missed population within the tract.

Pilot Error Was Factor in Brown Crash

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The jet crash that killed Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown was caused by a deadly combination of factors, including questionable pilot decisions, Defense Secretary William J. Perry said Thursday.

"It was not one single problem or mistake," Mr. Perry said in an interview aboard his plane en route from Europe. "There was a string of events which led to the accident."

Mr. Perry discussed the matter in an interview aboard his plane en route from Europe to Washington. The findings of an air force investigation will be made public Friday.

The air force T-43 passenger jet ferrying Mr. Brown and 34 others from Tuzla, Bosnia, to Dubrovnik, Croatia, on April 3 veered off course on its approach to the Dubrovnik airport in a thunderstorm. It slammed into a rocky mountain peak. No one survived.

Besides doubtful decisions by the pilot, Mr. Perry said, contributing factors were air force leaders' failure to certify the airport as safe in advance, insufficient navigational guidance from the airport and a wind that caused the plane to drift off course.

The investigation concluded, however, that weather was not a "causal factor" in the crash, according to an air force official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Mr. Perry said the full story might never be known. The plane had no data or voice recorders.

On his arrival in Washington, Mr. Perry went directly to the Pentagon for a detailed review of the air force's investigation of the accident, which has resulted in decisions to dismiss three Air Force commanders in Europe.

Mr. Perry said he and General Ronald Fogleman, the air force chief of staff, would brief President Bill Clinton on the investigation findings. He said families of the victims also were being provided details of the investigation.

"There is no single thing you can point to and say, 'Aha, that's what caused it,' " Mr. Perry said. "There are at least three or four issues which combined" to cause it.

In the absence of any one of those factors, he said, the accident would not have happened.

Hope Davis, the sister-in-law of the pilot, Captain Ashley J. Davis of Springfield, Louisiana, said it did not surprise the family that the military would blame him. The family was to be briefed Friday in Springfield, she said.

"I think they have been leaning more to pilot error, but I am sure we will never know," she said. "That is the way they do things."

According to Mr. Perry, another contributing factor was the decision of the 86th Airlift Wing commanders to allow its planes to land at Dubrovnik.

Although Mr. Perry did not elaborate on that point, officials have said the 86th Airlift Wing had not certified the airport as safe for landing, as it should have.

Away From Politics

• A couple and their two children left the Freemen ranch compound in Montana with FBI agents, the first people in nearly two months to leave the besieged compound, where the electricity has been cut off. U.S. Attorney Sherry Matteucci identified the four who left as Gloria Ward and her common-law husband, Elwin Ward, and her two daughters. The couple were on the run from child-welfare officials who want to put the two girls in foster homes. *(AP)*

• An out-of-control forest fire in Alaska has spread to 37,500 acres (15,176 hectares), burning housing developments north of Anchorage and causing the evacuation of 1,000 people. The loss of homes has been put in the hundreds. *(Reuters)*

• Even after spending more than $3 billion on new computers, the Internal Revenue Service for the fourth consecutive year is unable to reconcile its records of more than $1.4 trillion collected annually from American taxpayers. *(AP)*

• Colorado authorities changed their minds about who was driving the sports car that killed a Rocky Mountain News columnist March 17. Originally they thought it was the car's owner. Spicer Breeden, who committed suicide soon afterward. Now they have indicted a Denver artist, Jorg Peter Schmitz, on two counts of vehicular homicide and one count of failure to give notice. *(AP)*

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ASIA/PACIFIC

A Third Chinese Region Rings Separatist Alarm

Inner Mongolia Cites West-Backed Threat

Reuters

BEIJING — The Chinese region of Inner Mongolia has issued a warning against separatism, echoing similar campaigns under way against pro-independence movements in Xinjiang Uygur and Tibet.

The appeal to beware of separatists in Inner Mongolia came amid warnings in the mainly Muslim northwestern region of Xinjiang that underground religious activities and "terrorism" by splittists were the most severe threat facing the authorities.

"We must raise the awareness of ethnic cadres and the masses to safeguard the unity of the people," Liu Mingzu, the Communist Party secretary and top official in Inner Mongolia, said in a speech carried in an edition of the Inner Mongolia Daily made available in Beijing on Thursday.

"Increasing the ability to distinguish right from wrong will reduce the market for ethnic splittist activities," Mr. Liu was quoted as saying, "and help the broad masses of the people realize that safeguarding the sovereignty and unity of all nationalities is the supreme interest of the Chinese nation."

Inner Mongolia's people should resolutely attack hostile separatist forces with Western backing that are trying to destroy the unity of the motherland, Mr. Liu said.

But he tempered his call with a reminder to officials not to view the attack on separatists as a pretext for spreading a movement beyond strict limits.

Inner Mongolia is populated mainly by ethnic Mongolians, but there has been little sign of anti-Chinese unrest.

But authorities there late last year arrested a group of about 12 people who had demanded more democracy, as well as a fully separate autonomous region.

The police accused the group of taking part in a counterrevolutionary, or subversive, organization that aimed to engage in ethnically divisive activities, human rights groups said.

Inner Mongolia has traditionally been less restive than Xinjiang and Tibet.

Chinese officials in Xinjiang called last week for a "great wall of steel" against Muslim separatists.

The region, which borders Afghanistan, Pakistan and three mostly Muslim Central Asian states, has been shaken in recent weeks by several clashes and political killings involving separatists who want to end Chinese rule in Xinjiang.

And a Chinese court last month sentenced six Tibetans to up to five years in prison for demanding independence.

Beijing has in recent months stepped up its battle against pro-independence activists and has tightened controls on temples and monasteries in the deeply Buddhist region.

In another development, China said Thursday that Germany should stamp out "anti-China activities," hinting that it should ban a conference that the Dalai Lama was expected to attend.

"It is true that inside Germany there are some certain people who always tend to interfere in the internal affairs of China," the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, Shen Guofang, said.

The Dalai Lama, the exiled spiritual leader of Tibet whom Beijing considers the head of a separatist movement, is scheduled to attend a Bonn conference on Tibet on June 15-17 organized by a nongovernmental organization close to Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel.

The business newspaper Handelsblatt quoted Mr. Kinkel as saying that the conference and a resolution in Parliament challenging Tibet's status had created friction between Bonn and Beijing.

Burmese Military Bans Opposition Rallies

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

RANGOON — Burma's military regime moved Thursday to sharpen its confrontation with the pro-democracy leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, prohibiting the weekend meetings outside her house that have become a rallying point for dissent.

But in the face of the ban, a source from Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy said she was determined to continue. "She has said she will go on with her regular meetings as usual," he said. "The decision to ban our political activities is theirs; ours is to go ahead with our political work."

The ban came after most foreign journalists had left Burma after covering the congress of the National League for Democracy. Organizing the congress was Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's biggest political move since being released from six years of house arrest last July. As a result of the congress, the weekend meetings, held at the gates of her ramshackle compound in Rangoon, have swollen in the last two weeks, drawing up to 10,000 people at one point, more than four times the usual number.

Opposition sources said the authorities had contacted Aung Shwe, chairman of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's party, and told him the meetings would be banned starting Saturday.

A senior government official said Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's party had abused the government's leniency in permitting the public meetings.

The gatherings are technically illegal, violating bans on political gatherings of more than 50 people that can be punished by two years in prison.

Another source at the National League for Democracy said the party chairman, Aung Shwe, had been taken before intelligence officials and told the party would be shut down if it went ahead with plans to write a new draft constitution on its own.

Aung Shwe and two other party officials were summoned Tuesday by the deputy chief of military intelligence, Colonel Kyaw Win, the source said.

A crackdown on the meetings had been feared for months. Commentaries in state-run newspapers repeatedly indicated that the authorities could act at any time.

The meetings began with about 400 people shortly after Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's release last year, increasing to 2,000 after the party quit a government-stacked convention drafting a new constitution that guaranteed power for the military.

The regime has staged massive rallies around the country to counter perceptions of support for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 for her nonviolent attempts to promote democracy. Some participants at the government rallies said they had been told to attend or pay a fine. *(AP, AFP)*

David van der Veen/Agence France-Presse

A bust of Pol Pot looks out on the courtyard of a Phnom Penh museum dedicated to the Khmer Rouge genocide.

Khmer Rouge's Pol Pot May Be Dead or Dying

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PHNOM PENH — Cambodian officials said Thursday that they were checking intelligence reports that Pol Pot, leader of the Khmer Rouge regime that ruled from 1975 to 1979, may be gravely ill or even dead.

Pol Pot, now 68, has not been seen in public since just after a 1978 Vietnamese invasion ended his reign of terror, and he has long suffered from malaria.

A deputy commander of the Khmer Rouge, questioned on the Thai-Cambodian border, said Thursday that Pol Pot had died on Wednesday after a prolonged battle with malaria.

The officer said his unit, of the Khmer Rouge's 320th Division, was "going to Pol Pot's funeral," which he said was taking place Thursday at a jungle base at Phnom Malai, in Cambodian territory south of the Thai town of Aranyaprathet.

Earlier Thursday, Cambodian intelligence sources and others in Phnom Penh said the former dictator was fatally ill and may, in fact, have died early this week.

But intelligence sources in Thailand said the condition of the guerrilla commander was not serious.

"Yes, he's sick, but that's normal for an old man," a Thai intelligence source said. "His sickness is not that serious."

Khmer Rouge defectors have said for years that Pol Pot suffered regular bouts of malaria.

A senior Interior Ministry official in Phnom Penh said the government was checking Cambodian government intelligence reports that Pol Pot may have died from a combination of several ailments, including malaria and high blood pressure.

But "we don't have confirmation," said the official.

He said he did not know the whereabouts of Pol Pot, who, with his henchmen, turned Cambodia into a vast agricultural labor camp during their years in power, which left up to 2 million dead.

The Khmer Rouge clandestine radio station, monitored Thursday night, made no mention of Pol Pot or his health. It has not reported on him or his activities for many years, reflecting the guerrillas' official line that he "retired" from all leadership positions in 1985. Most observers regarded the retirement as a charade, and say he still heads the group.

Pol Pot, whose real name is Saloth Sar, has reportedly received medical treatment in the past in China and Thailand. After Pol Pot officially stepped down, the leadership passed to Khieu Samphan.

King Norodom Sihanouk, who maintains contact with Khieu Samphan, told a French radio station in April that Pol Pot was ill and could soon die.

"There is no question of murdering him," the king said. "I do not wish anyone's death, but if he died of malaria, it would be very good." He added that he believed "the Khmer Rouge movement would disappear if Pol Pot disappears." *(Reuters, AFP, AP)*

BRIEFLY ASIA

Vietnam Refugees Sent Home

HONG KONG — Hong Kong sent 376 Vietnamese refugees home Thursday on two flights, as the territory stepped up its effort to clear its detention camps before mid-1997.

Beijing has insisted that Hong Kong clear all "boat people" from the camps before China takes over the colony on July 1 next year.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which sponsored the fllights Thursday, said the number of Vietnamese migrants in Hong Kong stood at 16,415, down from 42,717 in 1992. About 30,000 remain in camps in southeast Asia, with the largest number in Hong Kong. *(Reuters)*

China Indignant at Japan

BEIJING — China lashed out Thursday at Japanese lawmakers who denied that Japan's World War II government had coerced women into working at front-line military brothels.

A Japanese legislator had said Tuesday that the Imperial Army had merely helped women travel to their work at the brothels.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Beijing said that China was "strongly indignant" at Japanese lawmakers' ignorance of historical fact. The spokesman added that the fact that Japan's aggressive war "forced the women of China and some other Asian countries to work as so-called military comfort women is one of the most savage atrocities committed by Japanese invaders." *(Reuters)*

Kashmir Plan Is Rejected

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan dismissed Thursday the new Indian government's plan to give greater autonomy to the Indian-ruled part of the disputed Kashmir, calling it "nothing new".

"Such offers have been made by previous Indian governments," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said, "and rejected time and again by the people of Kashmir." Only a plebiscite supervised by the United Nations could solve the dispute, he added.

Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda's new United Front government said Wednesday that peace could be brought about by granting maximum autonomy while keeping the state within India. *(Reuters)*

VOICES From Asia

Fidel V. Ramos, president of the Philippines, after a Supreme Court ruling blocking the prosecution of the beer and tobacco magnate Lucio Tan on tax fraud charges: "The decision is certainly a setback. It has a grave implication on the government's effort to proceed against those who violate our tax laws." *(Reuters)*

G. L. Peiris, justice minister of Sri Lanka, on the government's increased resolve to pursue talks on devolving power to end the country's 13-year war: "This country has no future unless this problem is solved. The military action in the north has only strengthened the government's resolve for a political solution." *(Reuters)*

At Least 79 Die In Chinese Slides

The Associated Press

BEIJING — Rescuers unearthed 14 people, some alive and some dead, Thursday after two huge landslides that killed at least 79 people and left another 148 missing, officials said.

The landslides, following heavy rains, struck a gold-mining region in southwest Yunnan province last Friday and Monday, injuring another 77 people, said Li Jiyou, an official with the Minyang County government.

Rescuers found 14 people Thursday, including some still alive, the Xinhua press agency said, without providing a precise number of survivors.

Rescuers also saved 30 miners from 13 gold pits buried in the landslides, it said, adding that another 10 gold pits still wait to be excavated. Earlier reports said 26 gold pits were buried, but Xinhua put the figure at 23.

Seoul Warns Against Contact With North Korea on Internet

Reuters

SEOUL — South Korea has warned its citizens against making contact with North Korea on the Internet, taking its battle with Pyongyang into cyberspace.

The state radio on Thursday quoted prosecutors as saying stern measures would be taken against anybody trying to read North Korean home pages on the World Wide Web.

Prosecutors said Internet subscribers who distributed or transferred such information to local personal computer networks would be punished under the National Security Law, which bars all unauthorized contacts with the North.

The radio gave no further details, and prosecutors were not available for comment. North and South Korea have been technically at war since their 1950-53 conflict ended with a truce.

Internet enthusiasts say they have detected no signs of North Korean activity in cyberspace. It is not clear whether the country can tap into the global network.

There are a number of home pages carrying North Korean news and information, but these do not originate in Pyongyang.

A South Korean newspaper created a stir this week by identifying one of these pages and suggesting that it could have been backed by Pyongyang. But checks showed it was created by a Canadian student, David Burgess, who traveled to North Korea in 1995. It consists partly of pamphlets he found on North Korea's national airline.

It is a serious offense in South Korea to sell or possess any literature produced in North Korea. Seoul bars the monitoring of North Korean media.

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EUROPE

EU Plays Down British Optimism Over Eased Beef Ban

The Associated Press

BRUSSELS — The European Commission distanced itself Thursday from Britain's view that an easing of the ban on British beef exports was a turning point in London's 10-week-old standoff with its European Union partners.

But it said it was "pleased" with Britain's decision Monday not to block a long-delayed accord between the Union and Slovenia that helps pave the way for the Balkan nation to gain eventual EU membership.

A British veto had been expected.

London has already blocked dozens of EU decisions to punish its partners for the March 27 ban that has halted Britain's beef exports, which are worth $855 million a year.

The main EU spokesman, Klaus van der Pas, said it would take a long time to study steps that Britain plans to take to eradicate "mad cow" disease and to ensure that tainted beef stays out of the food chain.

"What we have is a skeleton to serve as the basis for restoring consumer confidence in beef," he said.

Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind of Britain said in Rome on Wednesday that the EU decision to exempt semen, gelatin and tallow, which is made from fat and used to manufacture candles and soap, from the global trade ban was a "turning point." Mr. Van der Pas said that view was optimistic.

Britain seeks a general agreement that the ban will be lifted gradually. But its EU partners first want to see specific health measures and other guarantees to eradicate the disease.

Meanwhile, Britain plans to continue its noncooperation strategy to block EU decisions that require unanimous approval of the 15 member states.

The EU banned all exports of British beef amid concerns over mad cow disease, a brain-debilitating ailment that may be linked to an equally fatal human variant. Britain maintains that the disease is declining rapidly in British herds — from 35,000 confirmed cases in 1992 to less than 10,000 this year.

It appeared increasingly unlikely that the beef dispute could be resolved before the June 21-22 EU summit meeting in Florence.

In the House of Commons on Thursday, Prime Minister John Major of Britain said that Italy, which holds the EU's rotating presidency, would try its best "to see whether we can reach agreement in advance of Florence."

"It is not certain," he added. "But I think we have made a good deal of progress in the last few days and I think it is very encouraging."

■ Labor on the Attack

The opposition Labor Party said Thursday that Britain must be ready to repair its links with Europe once the crisis caused by a ban on beef exports is over, Reuters reported from London.

In his most forthright attack yet on the government for its policy of confrontation over the mad cow scare, the party's foreign affairs spokesman, Robin Cook, said the governing Conservatives were no longer capable of cooperating with Britain's neighbors.

He pledged to meet the Conservatives head-on if they decided to fight the next election on an anti-European platform. An election must be called in the next year.

"We need now to turn our minds to how Britain will win the peace after the disruption is over," Mr. Cook said.

Facing Vote, Turkish Leader Resigns

Islamist Party Could Profit From Collapse of Coalition

Agence France-Presse

ANKARA — Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz resigned Thursday, bringing the curtain down on a crisis-ridden coalition and raising the possibility of the pro-Islamic Welfare Party taking power.

Mr. Yilmaz announced he was stepping down after meeting with deputies from his Motherland Party to discuss a no-confidence motion in his three-month-old coalition government.

President Suleyman Demirel accepted the resignation but asked Mr. Yilmaz to head a caretaker government pending the appointment of a new prime minister.

The Welfare Party had demanded the vote of no-confidence, which was scheduled for Saturday, capitalizing on continuous bickering between Mr. Yilmaz's Motherland Party and his former ally, Tansu Ciller, head of the True Path Party. Mrs. Ciller withdrew her support following a power struggle with the prime minister and has announced that she would back the motion to topple Mr. Yilmaz.

Aides of Mr. Yilmaz had indicated that he would probably step down in light of a constitutional court ruling last month, which said that a March 12 parliamentary vote of confidence in his government violated the constitution for procedural reasons. "The speaker of the assembly did not ask for a new vote of confidence," Mr. Yilmaz had told reporters at the time. "All that is left for me to do is to go to the president to submit my government's resignation."

The coalition government formed by Mr. Yilmaz and Mrs. Ciller on March 6 has been wracked by internal dissent and paralyzed over the last few weeks as the two leaders played out their bitter rivalry.

Political analysts said that the scenarios now possible include a coalition between the Welfare Party and either True Path or the Motherland Party, a broad-based cabinet, or early general elections.

Agence France-Presse

Mr. Yilmaz announcing his resignation Thursday.

Germany's Reborn Free Democrats Redesign

Reuters

BONN — The liberal Free Democrats, all but written off until German regional elections in March, will launch a new party program this weekend that aims to sharpen their profile as guardians against an overbearing state.

The party's new leader, Wolfgang Gerhardt and General Secretary Guido Westerwelle say they aim to make the junior partner in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition more than just an add-on to someone else's government.

"In the past," Mr. Westerwelle said on the radio Thursday, "the FDP made one big mistake — it thought it had to become more and more like the other parties because they were becoming more and more like each other."

The new draft program is heavy on tax and spending cuts and economic liberalization and short on the civil liberties that used to be the party's other main plank.

Mr. Westerwelle will offer the program at a three-day party congress in Karlsruhe and says he hopes it will be approved next year.

"We want to make people see: Before you call on the state, look to your own abilities," he said.

The two leaders can point to a dramatic turnaround in the party's fortunes to support changing course.

After falling from state legislatures in 11 of 12 regional elections, the party that has been part of the federal government for 27 years seemed headed for political oblivion. Few knew what it stood for, and voters seemed to return it to the federal Parliament in 1994 only to keep Mr. Kohl in power, not for its own sake.

But in elections in March, after wringing out of Mr. Kohl a pledge to cut the "solidarity surcharge" on income tax designed to help rebuild the East German economy, the party rebounded, crossing the 5 percent barrier for winning seats in three states.

Now, Mr. Westerwelle has said, the Free Democrats want to set the agenda in a time when postwar welfare-oriented capitalism is looking not only unaffordable but ineffective against mass unemployment.

Mr. Westerwelle faces opposition from two quarters: Old-style liberals under former Justice Minister Sabine Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger say the program neglects the party's civil-libertarian roots, while a faction led by the former federal prosecutor Alexander von Stahl wants to give the party a nationalist slant.

Bicycle Spill Injures A Socialist Leader

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

KOBLENZ, Germany — The leader of the opposition Social Democrats in Parliament, Rudolf Scharping, was seriously injured in a bicycle accident Thursday, the police said.

Mr. Scharping, who lost his bid to unseat Chancellor Helmut Kohl in the 1994 elections, was transported by helicopter to a Koblenz hospital with head injuries, the police said.

Mr. Scharping, 48, fell from his racing bicycle onto the paved road, the police said. He was not wearing a helmet. *(AP, Reuters)*

BRIEFLY EUROPE

Italy Studies EU Border Accord

ROME — The Italian cabinet will meet Friday to examine two draft bills designed to make Italy a full member of the European Union's Schengen accord on open borders, the prime minister's office announced Thursday.

Italy has signed the accord, which aims to remove border controls and enable the free movement of people, but has not yet organized all the practical arrangements.

No immediate details of the bills were available. Rome has said it would like to join the Schengen pact alongside France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Spain, Portugal and Germany by the end of its EU presidency on June 30. *(Reuters)*

Chirac and Kohl Cover Bases

PARIS — President Jacques Chirac of France and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany held three hours of private talks Thursday, one day after a summit meeting in Dijon.

The talks, at the Elysée Palace, upset Mr. Chirac's schedule, delaying a meeting on the "mad cow" dispute with the British foreign secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, and Agriculture Minister Douglas Hogg for 30 minutes. A meeting with President Abdou Diouf of Senegal was delayed six hours.

Mr. Chirac said the talks with Mr. Kohl were "purely and strictly friendly" and that they "talked about anything and everything." *(AFP)*

Belgium May Bar Tobacco Ads

BRUSSELS — The Belgian Parliament is likely to vote later this month on a motion to ban all tobacco and cigarette advertising in 1999, except in areas where they are traditionally sold, a Parliament source said Thursday.

The proposed ban was approved by the country's health commission on Wednesday. The source said the members of the commission had been heavily lobbied by the tobacco industry before the vote. *(Reuters)*

EU Endorses Morocco Pact

BRUSSELS — The European Parliament voted Thursday to approve an accord covering links with Morocco, but voted also that human rights be closely monitored.

The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the pact, which will now go to European ministers for approval.

In earlier debates, the deputies were divided over whether to use the accord as a whip or carrot and stick to encourage Rabat to improve its rights record. *(Reuters)*

Calendar

European Union events scheduled for Friday:

BALKANS: The European Commission president, Jacques Santer, accompanies the Italian foreign minister, Lamberto Dini, on an official visit to Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia, Albania and Macedonia that will continue Saturday.

BRUSSELS: The European commissioner for external relations, Hans van den Broek, meets the chairman of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Jacques de Larosière.

Sources: AFP, Agence Europe

The Poland Investment Summit

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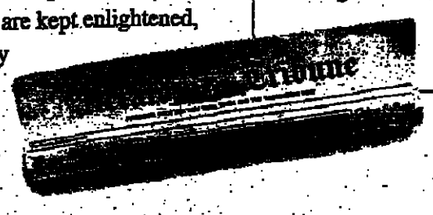

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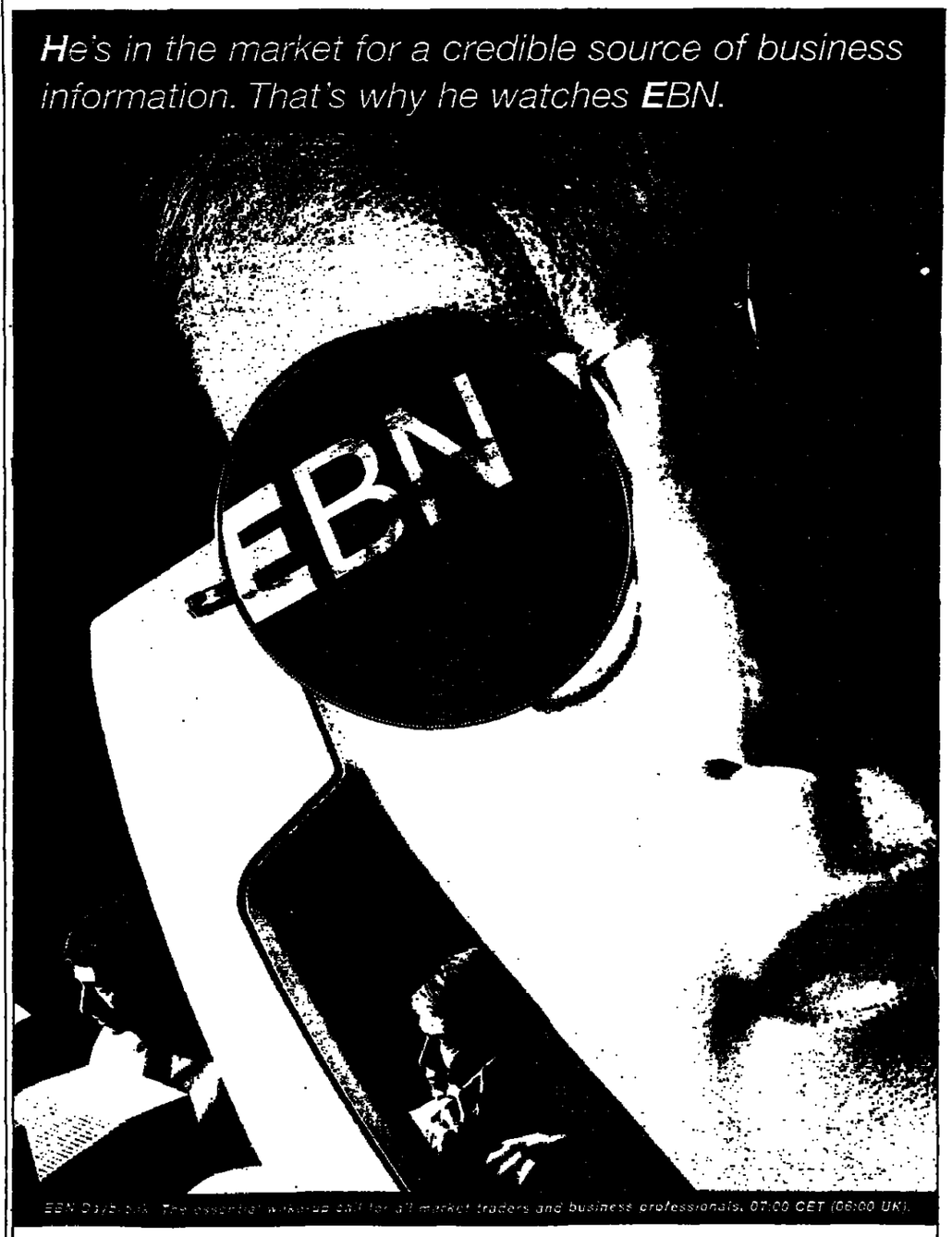

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INTERNATIONAL

Turks, With U.S. Support, Train Bosnians in the Art of Modern Warfare

By John Pomfret
Washington Post Service

ETIMESGUT, Turkey — The ancestors of Major Mirsad Gutic of the Bosnian Army fought for the Ottoman Empire when it stretched north through what is now Bosnia and threatened the heart of Europe. As cavalrymen, schooled near the empire's capital, Constantinople, now Istanbul, members of his clan were famed for swordsmanship, ruthlessness and grace atop the sultans' steeds.

In the completion of a historical circle, Major Gutic and a company of latter-day Bosnian soldiers started their own form of cavalry training in Turkey late last month. Exchanging the four-footed mounts of their predecessors for the U.S.-made M60A3 tank, they journeyed to this dusty armored-cavalry training center 15 miles southwest of Ankara to begin the first part of a U.S.-backed program to equip and train Bosnia's army. Another company of Bosnian soldiers was sent for artillery training at a base nearby.

U.S. officials say the program to strengthen Bosnia's army has not officially begun because of Clinton administration concerns that the Bosnian government has failed to expel up to 100 agents of the Islamic fundamentalist government in Iran who fought and trained in Bosnia during the war. But the dust that was kicked up here as Major Gutic and his men scrambled over a batch of aging M60 tanks was a blunt indication that, for them at least, it has begun.

"There have been no disagreements about the training of the Bosnian Army between the United States and Turkey," said General Cevik Bir, deputy chief of the Turkish Army's general staff. "We told them we would begin the training, and they had no problem with our plans."

European officials oppose the program, warning it could spark more war rather than encourage peace.

This operation, although financed and run by Turkey, amounts to the first step in a controversial $300 million, U.S.-backed plan to help unify the Croatian and Muslim-led government armies in Bosnia and deter aggression by better-equipped Bosnian Serb forces by creating a balance of military power.

European officials oppose the program, warning that a new flow of weapons into the region and a bolstered Bosnian government army may spark more war rather than encourage peace.

But the program also has another goal: to block the enduring influence of Iran on Bosnia's army and security services. U.S. officials have said that Washington's primary objective in backing the peace process was to prevent the establishment of a radical Islamic foothold in Bosnia, and therefore in Europe. Equipping and training the Bosnians is a way to encourage its commanders to cut ties with the Islamic republic.

Iran provided weapons and advisers to the Bosnian Army throughout Bosnia's war, with the knowledge of U.S. officials. In the spring of 1995, the Croatian government asked U.S. diplomats if they approved of the shipments. U.S. officials replied that they had no objections. Iranians worked closely with Bosnian intelligence agencies, and to this day a high-ranking Bosnian security service official, Irfan Ljevakovic, meets regularly with his Iranian counterparts, Bosnian officials say.

Iran's relations with Bosnia's army continue. Under a deal with the Czech automobile manufacturer Skoda, Iran plans to barter oil to the Czech Republic in exchange for Skoda cars that will then be given at a nominal cost to veterans of the Bosnian conflict, Bosnian officials said. "It's a way they can ensure lasting influence," said a Bosnian official who opposes the deal. "It's another method to buy clout."

Removing Iranian influence from Bosnia is also important to Turkey, General Bir and other military officials said.

"It is our mission to convince the Bosnian government not to follow the road of the fanatics," General Bir said, referring to the actions of Iranian-backed Bosnians who seek a separate Muslim state in Bosnia. "We completely disagree with the activities of the fanatics in Bosnia."

Turkey, a predominantly Muslim nation with an embattled secular, democratic government, needs a success in Bosnia to bolster the strength of its political system as a model for other mostly Muslim countries in Central Asia and the Middle East. Indeed, competition between Turkey and Iran in Bosnia is mirrored throughout the newly independent states of Central Asia, where the two Islamic powers also are battling for influence.

"We must export the Turkish model to other countries," said Dogan Gures, former head of the Turkish Army and now a member of Parliament. "It is a key to our survival. Bosnia, like the Central Asian countries, should be in a secular position. It will help us and it will help them."

General Bir noted that in addition to the 190 Bosnian soldiers being trained, 2,000 army officers from Central Asian nations such as Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan were studying at Turkish military schools and academies.

"Our main approach, our main policy is to show ourselves as a model," he said.

■ Commander of NATO Force to Leave

The commander of the NATO-led peacekeeping forces in Bosnia, Admiral Leighton Smith Jr. of the United States, will leave his post this summer as scheduled, an official told The Associated Press.

Admiral Smith will be replaced as commander of the 60,000-strong Implementation Force in Bosnia by Vice Admiral T. Joseph Lopez, also of the United States, the official said.

Yeltsin Makes Mad Dash For 'Disaffected' Vote

Pursuing the Young With Heavy Metal

By Alessandra Stanley
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — "Generation X" in Russia cannot complain that it is being ignored in the presidential election campaign.

Young voters are being wooed American-style — to the sound of heavy metal.

In a recent episode of an MTV-style get-out-the-vote show "Choose or Lose," Yevgeni Kemerovsky, a rock star, solemnly explained why he intends to vote for President Boris N. Yeltsin: "I won't be able to make my music videos if the Communists come to power."

Ostensibly nonpartisan, the show had already said as much in its graphics. The logo features a blue thumbs up under the word "Choose." Under "Lose," the thumbs down is colored red.

All 11 candidates in the June 16 election are trying to win over men and women aged 18 to 30, but nobody is trying harder than the 65-year-old president. He recently pledged to end the draft and create an all-volunteer, professional army. He has vowed to raise student aid and to lower education costs.

The president even seems prepared to cure acne. Lik, a Russian cosmetics company in Stavropol, recently began marketing a new $4 cream called "For Yeltsin."

Young voters are a mixed blessing for the incumbent. Most polls suggest that young people favor Mr. Yeltsin over his 51-year-old Communist challenger, Gennadi A. Zyuganov, by almost three to one. But young voters, who account for about 20 percent of the population, are less likely to vote than their elders.

In the 1995 parliamentary elections, only 40 percent of young voters went to the poll, and that apathy helped ensure victory for the Communists.

Fearful that young Russians are dazed, confused and alienated, the Yeltsin campaign is spending vast amounts of time, money and energy to shake Russian youth out of self-absorption.

Unlike the Communist Party, which has a well-disciplined youth league, or the ultranationalist Vladimir V. Zhirinovsky — whose core support is made up of young, poorly educated men — pro-reform parties like the Our Home Is Russia group have done almost nothing to reach out to young people.

To make up for lost time, Mr. Yeltsin is using his unparalleled control over mass communications to appeal to young voters on their own terms. Government and privately owned television and cable networks are wooing youths through fashion, rock music and celebrity endorsements.

Most striking is the ubiquity of imitation MTV programs like "Choose or Lose" and "It Depends on You," which bombard viewers several times a night with jumpy montages of good-looking, hip young people talking about the need to vote — for Mr. Yeltsin.

"Choose or Lose," moreover, is tied into a series of "Our President" rock concerts from Nizhni Novgorod to Vladivostok that showcase Russia's most famous pop stars.

None of the expenses are paid out of Mr. Yeltsin's campaign treasury. The concerts are considered a "private initiative" by the rock stars. In fact, they were organized by Sergei Lisovsky, a concert promoter and advertising mogul in charge of advertising at the government-controlled network ORT.

In a blatant bending of election rules that require political ads to be labeled as such, the television shows are described as "public service programming," despite the fact that they publicly serve Mr. Yeltsin. So are the 30-second television ads promoting the concerts.

Mr. Yeltsin's record is not part of the pitch.

"Yeltsin is not a man that any of us can respect," said Viktor Levsky, 24, a physics major in Novosibirsk. "Nobody my age could support a man who sent so many people to die in Chechnya for no reason. But we have to vote for him. Things are so scary in our country, I don't think we can afford to change."

And both presidential candidates are literally boogieing for votes. Mr. Yeltsin stood up and danced at a rock concert in Ufa on May 29. The day before, Mr. Zyuganov, who is known for his formal, even wooden, public demeanor, stripped off his jacket in Krasnoyarsk and performed a sprightly folk dance.

Mr. Zyuganov has also gingerly tried to show that he appreciates rock 'n' roll. Last month he played the host at a rock concert of his own, a youth festival organized by the Young Communist League that featured student folk singers and a few fading Russian pop stars lip-syncing their hits. Seated in the audience, Mr. Zyuganov smiled gamely, but he did not exactly groove to the music. Yet, even he has a brightly colored campaign poster of himself against the backdrop of the Kremlin, arm in arm with a sultry female rock star in a black patent leather mini-skirt, flanked by two male singers.

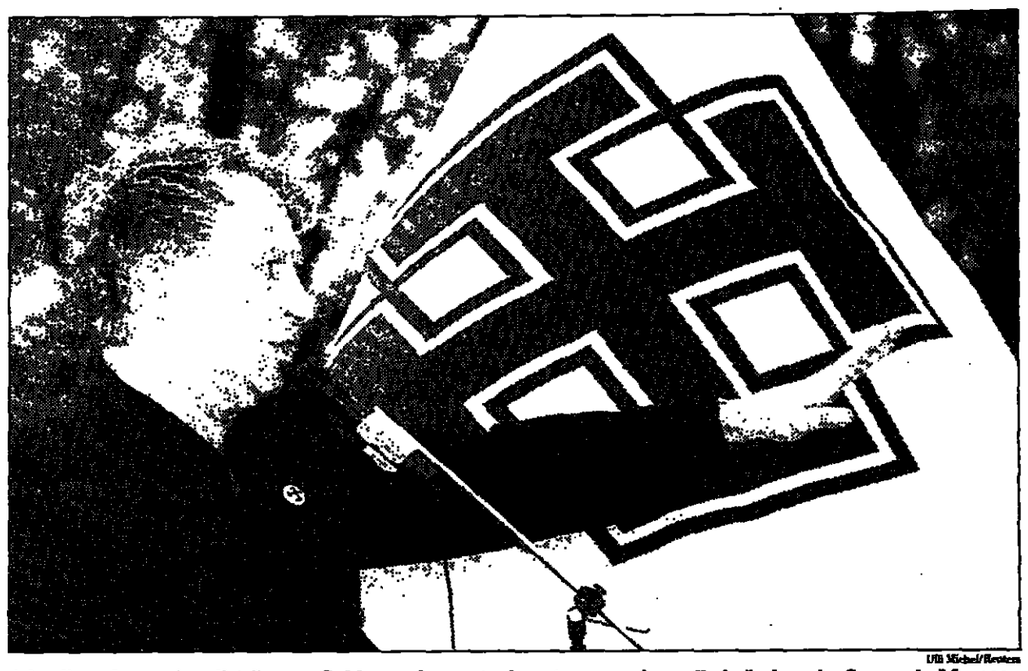
Mr. Zyuganov and the Communists do not expect to win votes by being "with it." Instead, he is mostly exploiting young people's fears of unemployment. And he is also counting on the fact that many young people who instinctively dislike the Communist credo may not bother to vote.

Even in Moscow, there are plenty of young people who say they don't care and won't vote.

"Why should I?" asked Alexander Meshaninov, 30, an unemployed photographer who was sipping a beer at a grunge club. "Nothing is going to change, no matter who wins."

That attitude is even more common outside the large major cities.

"I'm not going to vote," said Igor Lebedev, 19, a physics and math major at the Novosibirsk Engineering Institute. "The choice is Yeltsin or Zyuganov, and neither one has anything for me. They are both the same."



UPI/Reuters

A leading ultranationalist, Ivanov Sukharevsky, gesturing at a campaign rally in Lubyanka Square in Moscow.

Darwinism For Shrimp: They're One Big Family

By Rick Weiss
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — In sponge-covered reefs off the coast of Belize, an American scientist has discovered "hives" of tiny shrimp living cooperatively like honeybees and wasps — the first known example of such a highly evolved social system in a marine animal.

The colonies of pink and orange "snapping shrimp," so called because of the clicking noises they make with their front claws, have a single, large queen that reproduces hundreds of genetically identical shrimp that share resources and have a corps of soldiers defending the community against invaders.

The bizarre finding has sent ripples of excitement through the ranks of evolutionary ecologists, who for a century have wrestled with a question first noted by Charles Darwin: How can evolution, with its maxim of "survival of the fittest," lead to species in which the vast majority of individuals have given up their ability to reproduce?

In trying to answer this question, scientists have presumed that under certain circumstances, genetic survival of a species is best ensured by having most individuals forgo reproduction. Instead, these individuals care for their siblings — related to one another genetically as parents are to children.

The new work with snapping shrimp, different from other organisms using this strategy, helps to clarify the environmental and biological conditions likely to favor the evolution of this social system.

"It's totally wonderful," said Jon Seger, an evolutionary ecologist at the University of Utah. "This is the same excitement you'd get from discovering new life on another planet."

The discovery was made by J. Emmett Duffy, an ecologist at the College of William and Mary's School of Marine Science in Gloucester Point, Virginia, who described his work in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature. Mr. Duffy studied the shrimp species Synalpheus regalis, which lives in shallow Caribbean reefs. The shrimp spend their lives inside living sponges — labyrinthine environments that can house 300 or more shrimp.

By dissecting 30 such sponges, Mr. Duffy found that each shrimp colony had a single egg-laying female, whose eggs stick to the mother until they hatch into crawling larvae. Several generations of larvae were present in each colony. And when Mr. Duffy performed a test, resembling DNA fingerprinting, on more than 600 shrimp youngsters of various generations, he found that all appeared to be the offspring of a single set of parents.

Finally, Mr. Duffy discovered job specialization within the colonies. When confronted by intruders, snapping shrimp brandish their claws and snap them shut. Laboratory experiments in which Mr. Duffy exposed colony members to shrimp of a different species resulted in "intense battle," he reported, waged mostly by the larger colony members — soldiers of sorts.

Mr. Duffy wrote that the larger shrimp defending the juveniles amounted to "cooperative brood care."

Cooperative care of the young is one of three requirements that ecologists use to declare that a species is "eusocial," the most complex form of social organization among animals. The two other requirements are multiple generations living together and reproductive specialization, in which only one or a few individuals do all the procreating for a colony.

Mr. Duffy's shrimp apparently meet all those requirements, an evolutionary achievement found almost exclusively in insects such as bees, wasps, ants, termites and a few other animals.

Tehran Recalls Bahrain Envoy

Agence France-Presse

TEHRAN — Iran recalled its ambassador to Bahrain on Thursday in a growing diplomatic quarrel over accusations that Tehran backed a plot to topple the Manama government.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Iranian radio that the move was "a sign of protest against the accusations of the Bahraini government against the Islamic Republic."

Bahrain said Thursday that it, too, had recalled its ambassador to Tehran. The government had said earlier that it would reduce the level of representation in Iran to a chargé d'affaires, following the discovery of the alleged plot.

Late Wednesday, state television aired the confessions of six Shiite Muslim militants charged with trying to overthrow the Bahraini government with the help of Iran.

Iran has blamed unrest in Bahrain on "the lack of democracy" there, saying the only solution was political reform.

Governing Crisis Proves Prague 'Pretty Normal'

By Christine Spolar
Washington Post Service

PRAGUE — The day after Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus got the surprise of his political life, seeing his ruling coalition diminished to a minority in Parliament, he huddled with party members, sought counsel from the presidential palace and made his way to his regular afternoon tennis game.

Seven years after the end of Communist rule, the Czech Republic and its leaders are maneuvering through a new political landscape with all the deliberate speed and confidence found, as an analyst put it, in a "pretty normal country."

"What's happening here is politics," said Jiri Pehe, who has been tracking the election for the Open Media Research Institute. "It's more exciting than it used to be — but it's normal politics."

Since the vote counts from the weekend elections were firmed up, President Vaclav Havel has been meeting with leading politicians to find a solution to the unexpected stumble by Mr. Klaus's three-party, pro-reform coalition. The voting has left the country with a nearly equal challenger to Mr. Klaus's Civic Democratic Party, which has dominated the political scene for four years, and a future that demands compromise.

The Czech Social Democratic Party, which came within 3.1 percentage points of the Civic Democrats, wants to limit Mr. Klaus's strength and has even tried to block his return as prime minister.

[Mr. Havel said Thursday that he had called on Mr. Klaus to open talks on forming a minority government based on his previous coalition, Reuters reported from Prague. He said the Civic Democrats and the Social Democrats were not considering a "grand coalition."]

Although Mr. Havel and Mr. Klaus have been antagonists in the past, analysts here said the president would like to see the prime minister remain in control of the government, both as a sign of respect for the man who led the economic reforms that have been the envy of Eastern Europe and as a signal of continuity in a country that takes pride in stability.

Whether Mr. Klaus can stay in power rests largely on the ability of his coalition to respond in unison to the challenge from the leader of the Social Democrats, Milos Zeman — a solidarity of purpose that the Civic Democrats, the Civic Democratic Alliance and the Christian Democratic Union-Czechoslovak People's Party lacked during the campaign, when they fell into public squabbles.

Not surprisingly, Mr. Klaus's top adviser, Jiri Weigl, said this week that the coalition partners had found a renewed purpose after the election left them two seats shy of a majority in the 200-member Chamber of Deputies.

"Mr. Zeman can say what he wants, but he has only so many votes," Mr. Weigl said, adding, "All these parties were together for four years. Their differences are marginal."

The vote showed how the Czech political scene has changed in four years. Analyses of the returns this week have found that the electorate, in fact, did not shift to the left as voters in other former Eastern Bloc countries have done in the last couple of years. Each member of the center-right coalition did as well, if not slightly better, than in 1992.

What happened was a consolidation of votes by the one left-oriented party that ran an aggressive, organized campaign and pointed out the shortcomings in Mr. Klaus's economic programs — particularly in crime, corruption, housing, education and health care.

The Center for Empirical Research, an independent survey firm, determined that many citizens voted for the Social Democrats as a protest and because they felt secure enough about Czech democracy that they no longer needed to vote for the leader of market reforms.

"It wasn't a left-right vote," said Jan Machacek of the weekly Respekt, "or a vote on the market economy. For a lot of people, it came down to Klaus and how he was listening. He basically said during the campaign, 'Everything is done and we want to stay in power.'"

Mr. Klaus has been uncharacteristically mild-mannered since the vote. Aides say he is seeking a way to make the political process work in his favor.

"It's not a setback," said Ivan Gabal, a former adviser to Mr. Havel. "It's the end of one period where he had the necessary tools to implement the reforms as he wanted. If he learns to adapt, it'll be good for him and for the standards of Czech democracy."

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U.S. Appears Ready to Endorse Housing as a Basic Human Right

Reuters

ISTANBUL — The United States has dropped its opposition to declaring housing as a human right at the UN Habitat city summit, UN officials said Thursday.

"There has been an extraordinary evolution in the position of the United States on this," said Shafqat Kakakhel, head of the UN committee negotiating the Habitat II draft document.

He told reporters that the committee could finish its work by Friday.

Habitat officials said the United States had feared that declaring housing a right would imply that states had to provide housing for everyone or could face legal action.

The United States and other delegations have been searching for a wording of the declaration that would avoid the risk of such legal action.

"The U.S. feared that this would constitute something that would keep lawyers in the U.S. busy," said Mathias Hundsalz, head of the research and development division at the UN Habitat center in Nairobi.

"But they are realizing that it is to assist people in the security of tenure, protect them from discrimination, protect their access to finance — in short, to provide the legal framework that makes it easier to get housing."

U.S. officials said an agreement was being worked out on the issue and that European and developing countries were supporting the proposal.

But the officials played down the idea they had backed off. The United States had said at the start of the conference that housing was a right to the extent that an adequate standard of living was a human right.

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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune
PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

North Korea Needs Help

Reports of impending famine in North Korea, of entire villages scrounging for bark and roots, pose a foreign policy challenge to the United States.

There doesn't, at first glance, seem to be any reason to help this dinosaur of a communist dictatorship. North Korea impoverished itself through excessive militarization, isolation and refusal to reform its economy — including the collectivized agricultural sector. The country is so closed that even the extent of hunger can't be reliably determined. The regime maintains a brutal, Stalinist-style gulag and allows no freedoms whatever. Why should the West do anything to prolong what many experts take to be its death throes?

The reason, according to many specialists in America and in South Korea, is that a sudden collapse could be extremely dangerous, provoking civil strife, waves of refugees heading south and possibly even a second Korean war. Even short of such a calamity, the South could end up destabilizing itself if it tried to absorb the poorer North at its current level of destitution.

So South Korea and its allies are hoping for a "soft landing," meaning peaceful reunification following a period of gradual reform and economic growth in the North. Unfortunately, no one is sure this is possible. As long as North Korea sticks to its ideology of self-reliance, its economy will continue to dwindle. But the North Korean regime likely fears that once it abandons that ideology — once it allows the smallest opening to the world — the regime itself will be swept away. This is the canvas on which the West must paint its policies case by case.

Senator Bob Dole, who recently accused the Clinton administration of "appeasing the North," has urged the United States to cease bilateral talks until North Korea resumes a dialogue with South Korea. This would seem a recipe for self-wounding. Talks in some areas — such as tracking the remains of U.S. soldiers missing since the Korean War — are in the U.S. interest. There's no reason to refrain from such diplomacy if it is conducted with due caution and consultation with the South.

Providing modest amounts of food aid might likewise be in the West's interest, provided the donors maintain full control over distribution. Such aid could provide increased access to North Korea and pave the way for talks on more substantive issues. South Korea is not ready to resume such aid, given the way the North mistreated its ships bringing rice last year; it wants a direct plea from the North for help.

The United States is right not to proceed independently; North Korea must deal with the South if it expects help from the South's friends. But the U.S. ambassador to Seoul recently pointed out that South Korea is dealing from strength and that "the main challenges to stability now are North Korean weakness and despair." In such a situation, it would be foolish as well as hard-hearted to let North Korea's peasants starve.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Credit Card Charges

In a ruling involving billions of dollars, a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court this week upheld the right of national banks to charge late fees on overdue credit card accounts — in addition to charging interest — even if a cardholder lives in a state that prohibits such fees. This was a clear victory for banks with interstate credit card operations. But the outcome also stands to benefit consumers.

The opinion, written by Justice Antonin Scalia, rejected a class action lawsuit against Citibank by California residents who contended that late charges assessed by Citibank on their overdue Visa and Mastercard accounts were "unconscionable" and, further, illegal under a California consumer protection law. Citibank, the United States' biggest issuer of bank credit cards, conducts its business from South Dakota.

South Dakota and Delaware were the first states to repeal limits on the interest rates banks may charge for credit. To stay competitive, other states, including New York, have been forced to lift their own restrictions. Essentially, the question before the court boiled down to a choice of which state's law — California's or South Dakota's — applied.

Under the National Bank Act, a nationally chartered bank may charge its loan customers "interest at the rate allowed by the laws of the state" in which the bank is situated. The statute was enacted during the Civil War, long before there was a Diners Club to join. But in another case two decades ago, the court interpreted that provision to apply to a bank's out-of-state credit card operations.

At issue was whether the word "interest" in the statute encompasses late fees. Ruling in favor of Citibank, the court deferred to a reasonable regulation issued in February by the Comptroller of the Currency. It defined "interest" to include late payments and other fees "connected with credit extension or availability." The court found that the comptroller's definition was rational and thus warranted respect. But to count late fees as "interest" also makes good policy sense since it is part of the cost of using someone else's money.

The decision comes as a relief for federally regulated banks. They had fiercely contested the case, understandably concerned about the possibility of losing about $2 billion in late payment fees that the banks now collect, and having to refigure interest rates to make up the money.

Some have expressed fear that the decision will hurt consumers. But their concerns seem overwrought. The main effect of the decision is to keep current law in place. That leaves consumers free to shop among hundreds of banks in search of the lowest interest charges and other fees, a competitive market that provides a check against gouging. Had the decision gone the other way, consumers in California would no longer have had the option of using a credit card with the terms offered by those currently issued out of South Dakota.

Moreover, by retaining the ability of banks to impose late fees on customers who fail to pay the minimum due on their bill, the decision allows banks to continue to offer credit to less well-off customers and to preserve better interest rates for consumers who pay their credit card bills on time.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Lots of Loose Talk

The entire District of Columbia shouldn't be made to suffer because of the excesses of its mayor. That, however, will be the case if the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, follows through on his threat to try to revoke self-government in the District should Mayor Marion Barry fail to express regret for his latest colossal blunder. The mayor should apologize to the D.C. Financial Control Board for comparing it to a Nazi dictatorship. But the speaker shouldn't let Mr. Barry's extremism provoke him into an unwise act of his own. That is what a revocation of limited home rule would constitute.

This is not to say that Congress and the White House don't have an important stake in the outcome of this latest dispute between Mr. Barry and the Financial Control Board. By refusing to honor the board's instruction to remove a woefully inadequate human services director, Vernon Hawkins, Mr. Barry in effect was testing powers that Congress has delegated to the five-member panel. On the merits and as a matter of law, Mr. Barry should not prevail. As Representative Thomas Davis, chairman of the government oversight subcommittee on the District, warned, if the board is defied, "Congress would come down with a sledgehammer."

Fortunately, the city was spared having to witness a further rebuff of a mayor who squanders the little political capital he has with reckless abandon. With Mr. Hawkins's announced resignation Wednesday, the mayor has been given an opportunity to save face and to preserve what few powers he has left. In a showdown with the board, he would have lost. Congress and the president would have had no choice but to take all necessary steps to enforce the board's rulings. This lesson should not be lost on Mr. Barry.

With Mr. Hawkins exiting his office, the mayor should quit his posturing and turn to real problems that confront the city and that are within his capacity to manage. Mr. Gingrich can do the city a favor also by putting a lid on loose talk about repealing local democracy.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

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'Europeanization' of NATO: A Convenient Myth

By Philip H. Gordon

LONDON — At their ministerial meeting in Berlin on Monday, NATO leaders celebrated an agreement on "combined joint task forces," the much-ballyhooed new command that would allow Europeans to use NATO assets without the participation of the United States.

The U.S. secretary of state, Warren Christopher, hailed the deal as providing for "a more flexible NATO that allows our European allies to take more responsibility." The French foreign minister, Hervé de Charette, proclaimed France's satisfaction that "for the first time in alliance history, Europe will be able to express its personality," adding: "For the first time we have gone from words to deeds."

The new agreement is being undertaken very much on U.S. terms.

Combined joint task forces are an important innovation, but the idea that they mark the "Europeanization" of NATO is little more than a conventional myth. In fact, far from marking the culmination of a post-Cold War process of enhancing Europe's role in the alliance, the deal reached on the task forces will confirm what has already become apparent in the last few years: The U.S. role in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and NATO's centrality in European security, are as strong as ever. Talking about Europeanization comforts those Europeans who regret these facts and reassures Americans who want to believe that Europe is taking more responsibility for its security. But the truth is that the reorganization of NATO, like the deal on the joint task forces, is being undertaken very much on American terms.

The Berlin agreement, it is true, would theoretically allow Europeans to use NATO assets in actions that the United States does not want to participate in, but only under three conditions imposed by Washington: the United States approves of the mission; the overall responsible commander for NATO assets remains the (American) Supreme Allied Commander, and the forces involved are all NATO-approved and follow NATO procedures. If the United States actually opposes the European mission, it can prevent NATO from being used entirely.

The idea of "Europe-only" task forces becomes even more hypothetical when one begins to consider actual cases in which they might be used. A classic and sensible example of an American-supported but European-manned mission would be a force to replace the NATO troops in Bosnia when the Americans leave. Inauspiciously, Europeans reject this categorically as too difficult without the United States.

Even if one could imagine missions that the Europeans would execute with NATO assets but without U.S. troops, it is important to remember that NATO has very few assets of its own. Most of the troops that make up the alliance are nationally "owned" and nationally controlled — simply "earmarked" for NATO use if the national capital gives the go-ahead. The only assets actually owned by NATO include an air defense system; some command, control and communications assets (mostly fixed, and therefore not very useful for interventions); oil pipelines, and about three dozen Airborne Warning and Control Systems, or AWACS. What the Europeans would need to conduct anything but very small-scale and nearby interventions are not NATO assets but American assets — long-range heavy transport aircraft, air-refuelling capabilities and satellite intelligence systems. Joint task forces or not, Europeans will be dependent on these American assets for a very long time.

NATO's Europeanization would be real rather than illusory if either of two things were happening: if the European Union were setting up a genuine common foreign and security policy at its current Intergovernmental Conference, or if Europeans were devoting more new means to developing their real military capabilities. Neither is happening.

No one now expects anything other than cosmetic progress at the Intergovernmental Conference on security and defense. Despite the widespread recognition that European divisions plagued Europe's ability to deal with the Bosnia crisis, and resentment that the United States had to step in to resolve it, EU states still seem unwilling to make the leap forward in foreign policy decision-making necessary to improve their ability to deal with foreign crises. Europe will probably set up a new planning and analysis cell in Brussels and may or may not appoint a high representative for foreign policy, but neither of these steps would have a significant effect on the EU's ability to act in a unified and decisive manner. More significant measures — bringing foreign policy into the integrated "first pillar" institutions; merging the Western European Union, Europe's defense arm, with the EU, or even adopting qualified majority voting for foreign policy — are unlikely.

Most of the alliance's 'heavy' assets are in reality American assets.

As far as real military capabilities are concerned, progress seems even more elusive. Far from building up their military capabilities, Europeans are actually cutting back. Their defense budgets have for six years been in free fall and are likely to be chopped even further in an effort to meet the deficit criteria for monetary union. Ironically, France — the country most insistent upon and proud of Europeanization — is now the one cutting defense spending the most, as part of the massive reorganization of French forces announced by President Jacques Chirac last February.

Even the supposed U.S. support for Europeanization, so satisfying to the French, tends to be exaggerated. It is true that the Clinton administration has rhetorically been far more supportive of the European defense identity than the Bush administration. But when it comes to actual actions, Democrats and Republicans are not all that different. President Bill Clinton has been no more prepared than George Bush to make blanket commitments to extend U.S. support to the Europeans, and he has also discovered that what counts most is not whether the Europeans are united in some "identity" but whether they support U.S. policies and goals. European unity in maintaining the Bosnian arms embargo against U.S. wishes, selling airplanes to China or maintaining a "critical dialogue" with Iran are not exactly what make the Clinton administration happy. Whether Democratic or Republican, what the United States supports is European support for U.S. policies and interests, not some generic idea about whether the Europeans are unified.

There is nothing really harmful about the illusion of Europeanization, and the myth even has some advantages. It has, for example, provided France the political cover to come closer to NATO by being able to claim that NATO has appropriately reformed. In the United States, rhetorical support for Europeanization allows the administration to tell Congress and the public that Europeans are shouldering more of the trans-Atlantic burden for defense. If all of this can help maintain support for the Atlantic alliance and avoid a costly duplication of NATO resources, so much the better.

But like all useful myths, Europeanization has its downsides as well. So long as Europeans think they can now count on NATO to do their regional police work for them, they will be unlikely to take the steps toward real military capabilities and organization that would be useful to them and Americans alike. If they think that they now will not "have to call their American friends" (in the words of Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel of Germany) they are more seriously misled. And if the Europeanization myth leads Congress to think the burdens of Western security are now evenly spread across the Atlantic, they should think again.

Until further notice, the United States is still the dominant player in the Atlantic alliance, with all the burdens and advantages that that position entails.

The writer, a senior fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

A Fly on the Wall Visits the Arab Capitals After Israel's Vote

By Thomas L. Friedman

WASHINGTON — Bibi Netanyahu's election may have shaken up Israeli politics, but it's triggered an earthquake in the Arab world. Thanks to the peace process, Israel has become part of Arab politics, and everyone from Rabat to Baghdad is asking, "How does Bibi help or hurt me?" Here's an insider's guide to their thinking:

Hafez Assad of Syria: "Bibi's election is great news. I'm off the hook now and won't have to make the tough decision about recognizing Israel. Sure, Bibi doesn't want to give up the Golan Heights, but I don't want to give up Lebanon, so we'll trade: I keep Lebanon, he keeps the Golan — and Bibi gets the blame. The next time Warren Christopher calls, I'll say to him: 'You know, Chris, I had just decided to make peace with the Israelis, and then they elected Bibi and he's not interested in negotiating with me. What bad luck! Oh, what a cruel twist of fate!' Bibi will also give me a new chance to drive a wedge between Israel and the United States, which was never possible under Shimon Peres, and to break out of my isolation in the Arab world. Those Likud hard-liners will eventually push all the Arabs back toward me. The best part is that Yasser Arafat thought he had outfoxed me by making peace on his own with the Jews, leaving me out on a limb with no leverage. But now it's Arafat out on a limb, and I hope Bibi saws it off by giving him nothing. And then, if the Communists win in Russia, well, it will be just like the good old days. Isn't democracy wonderful?"

King Hussein of Jordan: "Good news. Bibi's election will weaken my rival Arafat and will prevent a Palestinian state on the West Bank, where it could threaten the stability of Jordan. I was terrified that if Peres won, the United States and Israel would focus entirely on trying to bring Syria into the peace process and ignore me. Peres and Christopher would have sold Lebanon to Assad, just to get an Israel-Syria deal, and then they would have sold me to Assad as well. My real enemies are Syria and Iraq. Historically, they're the ones that want to devour my little kingdom, and with the Likud in power in Israel, they won't dare. Bibi needs me badly. He's not interested in a Syria deal, and since he is likely to alienate many Arabs he will need to show he can maintain good relations with at least one Arab country, and I'm his best option. He'll also want strong ties with Jordan to increase my influence in the West Bank and undercut Arafat's. But Bibi, don't go too far. I still live in this neighborhood."

Hosni Mubarak of Egypt: "Israel has gotten too strong. And as Israel has entered Arab politics, thanks to the peace process, it has become a real competitor with Egypt for dominance in this region. We want to shrink Israel's influence so Egypt remains the key power broker in the Middle East. To the extent that a Netanyahu government leaves Israel more isolated from its Arab neighbors, Egypt benefits. I will demonstrate that by organizing the first Arab summit meeting in years, under Egypt's leadership. We need Arab unity to face Bibi. But I promise not to go too far — if Bibi doesn't."

Hashemi Rafsanjani of Iran: "Our strategy worked perfectly. Now that our suicide bombers got Bibi elected, we can concentrate on destroying Arafat. Between Hamas and some of the crazies in Likud we should be able to get a real shooting war going in the West Bank between Jews and Muslims. Maybe it will even turn into another Bosnia. Bosnia was a great boon for our influence with Muslims in Europe, and if we can have another Bosnia going in the West Bank, just think what inroads we'll make with the Palestinians. We'll also use Bibi's election to embarrass the Saudis and Kuwaitis for having supported the peace process."

Saddam Hussein of Iraq: "If Peres only knew how to conduct an election like we have in Iraq, he wouldn't have had this problem. Wow, Arik Sharon, Rafael Eytan and those wild rabbis all in one cabinet. What a lineup! Looks like I won't be the only bad boy in the neighborhood anymore. This will give me a chance to escape from my isolation. I might even call Assad."

The Arab people: "Many of us, including business leaders and members of the middle class, were just coming around to the idea of peace with Israel. Whatever our leaders wanted, we wanted Peres because we believed that the peace process held the seeds of a new Middle East, with more jobs, more stability in our lives and maybe even more freedom. We're worried."

The New York Times.

Deal Won't End Iraqi Suffering

By Roger Normand

WASHINGTON — The Washington spin control on the recent oil-for-food deal between Iraq and the United Nations claims that U.S. resolve has succeeded in maintaining sanctions while forcing Saddam Hussein to feed his people.

Largely unchallenged by the media, this version of events omits from the historical record any trace of U.S. or UN Security Council responsibility for the unprecedented civilian suffering in Iraq caused by sanctions. According to estimates by UN agencies, more than 500,000 Iraqi children have died from hunger and disease — roughly the combined toll of two atomic bombs on Japan and the recent scourge of ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia.

Children will continue to die in Iraq even after the oil-for-food deal is implemented because the agreement fails to address the economic and legal injustice at the root of the sanctions. In fact, the deal does not even provide enough money to purchase the necessary humanitarian supplies.

Before sanctions, oil revenues accounted for more than 90 percent of Iraq's foreign earnings. These funds were used to import food, medicine and equipment for the country's modern health infrastructure. Without oil or hard currency, Iraq's economy has collapsed. Runaway inflation has caused the average public-sector wage to fall to $4 per month, enough to purchase a few meals for a family of six. Skilled workers such as doctors and engineers desert their jobs because it is more profitable to sell cigarettes on the street. Families have been forced to sell household and personal possessions to buy food. Ordinary Iraqis now depend for their survival on the government rationing system, which provides only one-third of caloric needs.

Meanwhile, Iraq's formerly modern health infrastructure is crippled by a lack of supplies and spare parts. Water and sewer networks have ceased to function, so people must drink contaminated water and live amid raw sewage, creating a deadly cycle of waterborne disease. Sick and starving children fill hospital wards in a country where child obesity used to be a common problem. Because hospitals lack basic medicines and supplies, dotors are forced to play God on a daily basis, deciding who must die and who will get a chance to live.

About 500,000 children have died of hunger and disease.

The Security Council is obligated by the UN Charter to "promote and encourage respect for human rights." Saddam Hussein's crimes do not give the council license to violate the human rights of 21 million Iraqis through a devastating, even if unintended, form of collective punishment. The laws of war require states to distinguish between military and civilian targets at all times, and not to inflict disproportionate damage on the civilian population. If the Security Council cannot conduct a war against Iraq that kills hundreds of thousands of children, why is it allowed to impose the most severe sanctions regime in history with the same result?

Rather than address these disturbing issues of legal and moral accountability, the United States and the Security Council seem to hope that the oil-for-food deal will defuse international criticism of the impact of sanctions. But the deal is simply not fair to Iraqi civilians.

The details are as follows: Iraq can sell $1 billion of oil over a (renewable) 90-day period. All proceeds from such sales will be placed in a UN-controlled bank account, to which Iraq has no access. Of the $1 billion, 30 percent will go toward reparations for the Gulf War, 5 to 10 percent will pay for UN operations in Iraq, 5 to 10 percent will cover repair and maintenance of oil pipelines and 15 percent will go toward humanitarian supplies to 3 million Kurds in northern Iraq. That leaves just 40 percent for Iraq's remaining population of 18 million, less than $7.50 per person a month.

The UN Secretariat and other agencies have estimated that Iraq requires almost $4 billion per year in food and medicine alone — more than twice the amount allowed under the oil-for-food deal. This does not even begin to account for the massive capital expenditure needed to rebuild the health infrastructure in order to stop the cycle of disease.

All this raises fundamental questions about the oil-for-food deal. Since the United Nations controls the bank account and will monitor distribution of supplies, why prevent Iraq from selling enough oil to meet all humanitarian needs? Why guarantee continued deprivation by adopting an arbitrary limit of $1 billion every 90 days, or $4 billion per year? What is gained by allowing more children to suffer and die?

The United States and the Security Council need to reassess the moral and legal basis of sanctions and stop punishing Iraq's most innocent and vulnerable citizens.

The writer is policy director of the Center for Economic and Social Rights, a research and advocacy organization. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1896: McKinley Ticket

NEW YORK — Mr. McKinley has decided to ask Mr. Redfield Proctor, of Vermont, to accept the nomination for Vice-President at St. Louis. The *Mail and Express* this afternoon [June 6] says: "Mr. Platt cannot defeat Mr. McKinley, but will be overwhelmed under the cyclone of McKinley sentiment." Mr. Redfield Proctor was Secretary of War in President Harrison's administration. He was formerly Governor in Vermont, in which State he was born in Cavendish.

1921: Turkish Threat

PARIS — Dark clouds have gathered in the Near East, bringing a menace of possible war between the Allies and the Turkish Nationalists of Asia Minor. Mustapha Kemal Pasha, head of the Angora Government, is ambitious of restoring Turkey as an effective Mohammedan Power with the aid of the alliance with Soviet Russia. Already, he has dismissed his Grand Vizier, who signed the Franco-Turkish convention in London, replacing him by an extremist leader whose policy is to drive the Allies from Asia Minor and the French from Syria.

1946: Grim D-Day

PARIS — Ceremonies were held yesterday [June 6] in Normandy where American and British soldiers moved in to break in the vaunted German West Wall on June 6, 1944. The ceremonies were not lacking in dignity, but throughout France, including the present American civilian and military population, there was little interest in them. In general the attitude was that it was too soon, and the grimness of those times was still too fresh to be re-pictured. Most Americans voiced: "We don't want any part of it."

OPINION/LETTERS

Could Clinton Be Indicted for a Crime?

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — We now know that the Clintons benefited from a criminal conspiracy to steer taxpayers' money illegally into their Whitewater venture.

A separate criminal investigation is active to see if, in the Whitewater conspiracy, the Clintons attempted to obstruct justice from the White House.

In a trial of two Arkansas bankers later this month, Bill Clinton may be shown to have accepted $7,000 in perhaps-stolen cash in his office from bankers accused of buying a job from him.

In the light of these and other close brushes Mr. Clinton is having with both proven and charged criminality, we can ask the unaskable: Is this president at risk of being indicted for a crime?

Impeachment seems draconian, especially in an election year and in the absence of public outrage.

That brings up a profound question not directly answered by the constitution: Is a sitting president subject to prosecution for a criminal violation — or is the holder of that office "above" the criminal law, unreachable by prosecutors and juries?

I think he cannot be indicted in any criminal court while in office. This conclusion is based on the brief submitted on Oct. 5, 1973, by the U.S. solicitor general, after Vice President Spiro Agnew — charged with accepting cash payoffs for favors done while governor — claimed to a federal court in Maryland that a vice president could not be subject to indictment and trial while in office.

Solicitor General Robert Bork argued the opposite: that the constitution, as "an intensely practical document," did not imply an immunity for a vice president or lesser federal officials.

Vice President Aaron Burr had to stay out of two states where he was indicted, but was able to exercise the powers of his office anyway. The government would not be paralyzed if any official were prosecuted — except the president.

"The president is the only officer of government for whose temporary disability the constitution provides procedures to qualify a replacement," argued Mr. Bork, because it "incapacitates an entire branch of government."

Moreover, "the framers could not have contemplated prosecution of an incumbent president because they vested in him ... the power to control prosecutions." Presidential pardoning power "is consistent only with the conclusion that the president must be removed by impeachment, and so deprived of the power to pardon, before criminal process can be instituted against him," wrote Mr. Bork, who tells me he holds the same opinion today.

What must this mean to the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, also a former solicitor general, as he examines potential crimes committed by the Clintons?

It could mean that if the Little Rock, Arkansas, grand jury finds credible evidence that the president was part of a criminal conspiracy, then the independent counsel would ask the jurors to limit their action to a presentment, or public report, without an indictment, at the most naming Mr. Clinton as an unindicted co-conspirator.

That is little more than what Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski did in the Nixon case.

The same approach — to disclose rather than indict — is probable in the disposition of evidence and conclusions of the Washington grand jury regarding potential obstruction of justice in Whitewater and abuse of federal power in Travelgate.

Mr. Starr would ask the court to forward the evidence to the House Judiciary Committee, on the theory expressed by the framer Gouverneur Morris at the Constitutional Convention that the courts could "try the president after the trial of impeachment."

But impeachment seems draconian, especially in an election year and in the absence of public outrage. If the White House worst-case scenario develops in coming months, Congress should promptly disclose the unried evidence and let the voters be the jury.

One question that is not a constitutional issue is the ability to indict Hillary Rodham Clinton, private citizen. Her pattern of what prosecutors call "conscious avoidance" of telling the whole truth may link the conspiracy in Arkansas to the obstruction of its prosecution here, as well as to the abuse of power in Travelgate.

Campaigning, Bill Clinton used to promise "two for the price of one," but the criminal law he is above while in office may accuse one for the acts of two.

The New York Times.

Earth to Perot: Please Go Home

By Maureen Dowd

By Kal in The Economist (London), Cat & Syndicate.

WASHINGTON — It is fashionable this spring to talk about politics in terms of romance.

Arianna Huffington on the president: "Bill Clinton is a little bit like the kind of man who lies to you and then you go back for more, you know, the kind of women-who-love-too-much syndrome."

MEANWHILE

Danielle Crittenden in The Weekly Standard on Bob Dole: "He is behaving like a tired roué whose pickup lines keep falling flat."

Michael Kelly in The New Yorker on Ross Perot, Pat Buchanan, Jesse Jackson and other media-based protest politicians: "These candidates are the equivalent of first-date guys — attractive enough to take a flier on once, twice at the most, but no more."

After spending two long hours listening to Mr. Perot hold forth at a New York Times lunch this week, I mulled over possible romantic metaphors to fit the situation.

Titania and Bottom come to mind.

We had a midsummer night's dream four years ago, when we grew enamored of Mr. Perot, a man who is now seen as so deeply strange and megalomaniacal that Mr. Kelly wrote dismissively of his '96 pursuit as "Ross the Human Dogboy rolls about in the sawdust barking and biting his hindquarters."

As in romance, the more we distance ourselves, the more he pursues us.

But now that we have awakened from this vexatious dream, now that our vision has cleared, how do we get the funny-eared suitor to go away?

We don't. It's a midsummer night's nightmare.

Like Jesse Jackson and Mario Cuomo and others who have experienced a few splendid moments in the arena before the fickle voters moved on, Mr. Perot grasps at the microphone.

He quit the 1992 presidential race and missed his moment. But he won't stop calling, even as he protests that he has no personal ambition and is repelled by the nastiness of public life.

As in romance, the more we distance ourselves, the more he pursues us. He has the means to keep sending flowers.

What once seemed intriguing now seems hollow, as he keeps spouting wacky statistics.

"At one time, the American dream typically took three generations. Now it's up to 12, the last study I saw."

Or, "I'm sure you've all seen the study that more people think they'll meet an extraterrestrial in their lifetime than will ever receive Social Security."

When he refers to himself as "E. T.," he may be playing to one of his constituencies. A 1994 Washington Post-ABC News Poll found that 59 percent of those who had seen flying saucers preferred Mr. Perot to Mr. Clinton and Mr. Dole.

After four years of ranting about how Americans need to understand the deficit and make the hard decisions to fix it, Mr. Perot has not come up with any specifics. He substitutes similes for substance.

"If I came to you today and said 'I have a brand new screwdriver I'd like you to invest in,' I think you'd want to see one. How do you know the plastic handle won't break off of the shaft?"

Or, "We'll put two or three pilot programs out there. ... Let's see if the dogs'll eat the dog food."

While he criticizes politicians who act like entertainers, he is simply a plutocrat acting like an entertainer.

Mr. Perot presents himself as the antidote to politicians who want to manipulate malleable American voters, even as he contrives to mess with the campaign to satisfy his own ego.

He is a creation of television who loves to talk about how brainless television is.

"We could not run George Washington II if he showed up. Is it obvious to you why? He has wooden teeth. He couldn't make it on television, right?"

Mr. Perot thinks that good people are kept out of politics by media scrutiny.

"I find that so fascinatin'. They step into the public arena and in 90 days you wouldn't know them, right?"

Wrong. We knew Mr. Perot in 90 days. We knew about his paranoia and inquiries and delusions and demagoguery and mock populism and militarism and hunger for control.

The man who has made outrageous suggestions about Republicans plotting to disrupt his daughter's wedding or trying to hire him to underwrite dirty tricks complains about negativity, saying that Mr. Clinton and Mr. Dole are "just chewing on the other candidate's cat or rabbit."

He advises us to get past political theater.

"When is the press going to say: 'Grow up. We'll put you on the front page when you do something'?"

O.K., Mr. Perot, we'll put you on the front page when you do something. Until then, E. T., go home.

The New York Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Trade and Labor

Reginald Dale *("Cheap 4Labor Poses a Trade Dilemma," Thinking Ahead, June 4)* is correct to point out that the OECD report on trade and labor standards suggests that "developing countries won't lose, and may even gain, by improving their working conditions."

However, he is wrong to say that the conclusions "remove any justification for linking labor practices to the rules of trade" and to dismiss the World Trade Organization's role. The multilateral trade and investment system has rules governing intellectual property rights. It is developing rules governing investors' rights. It must have rules guaranteeing the basic rights of workers.

An increasing number of "free trade" or "export processing zones" in developing countries strip workers of their fundamental right to join unions and bargain with employers. Efforts by some developing countries to respect basic rights are being undermined by negative policy competition among governments that wish to attract foreign investment through the suppression of labor rights. The OECD report shows that in the long term this may be misguided, but this still does not stop it from happening.

The response is also becoming increasingly trade-focused, with the growth of labor-rights clauses in trade legislation, product labelling (such as the "rug mark" plan) and consumer boycotts against products and countries. Establishing clear rules by which WTO members commit themselves to observing core labor rights would not be protectionist; it would remove one of the causes of protectionism.

The OECD report found a positive, two-way relationship between trade and labor standards. This should give scope for the trade and labor communities to agree on a way forward at the WTO ministerial meeting in Singapore next December.

JOHN EVANS.
Paris.

The writer is the general secretary of the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

How to Help Africa

Regarding "Trusteeship Is the Solution for Much of Africa" by William Pfaff (Opinion, May 25):

In most of the states cited, governments, armies and a majority of the people would unite to resist recolonization. Appalling leaders who would otherwise be likely to be removed or reduced by domestic processes would gain pseudo-legitimacy — as have Mohammed Farrah Aidid and Charles Taylor. Even were installation possible, external rule can rarely provide a direct transition to domestically accountable, competent governance without a period of often traumatic post-colonial learning by doing.

Backing those African actors who do seek good governance, poverty reduction and economic advance is a much more promising approach. But it, too, can work efficiently only if African agendas and insights are the basis for dialogue and action and the external parties avoid dominating or being perceived as dominating the African ones.

Africa's 1990-1996 trajectory is by no means universally negative; indeed arguably since 1990 gains have outpaced losses. External interventions have been marked by timidity, shortsightedness, underfinancing of reconstruction and social-livelihood rehabilitation and gross inadequacy of contextual knowledge. Djibouti declined United Nations trusteeship and — unlike Somalia — is a substantial way back toward decent governance, functioning public services and a viable economy.

International trusteeship is no answer. Quite the contrary. Reassertion of African agendas and selective international support for African actors with good governance, poverty reduction, human rights and economic improvement priorities is urgently needed.

REGINALD H. GREEN.
Lewes, England.

NATO Enlargement

In response to the report "U.S. and Europe Clash Over New NATO Roles" (May 31):

The central principle has been established that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization will remain the West's main defense alliance. Reform of NATO will begin with the first participation of a former Warsaw Pact state.

A European continent on its way to being knit together as a political, economic and strategic entity will be a more capable partner. Enlargement is also indispensible for helping to ensure American involvement in the security of Europe.

STANLEY STEIN.
New York.

Beyond Harvard

Do I detect an editorial bias in favor of Harvard University? In a May 21 story, the suspected "Unabomber," Theodore Kaczynski, is identified as a Harvard-trained mathematician, but the story did not mention where his brother went to school.

In fact, Theodore Kaczynski got his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Michigan, not Harvard, from which he obtained a bachelor's degree.

SHAW SIN-MING.
Hong Kong.

Now Fix the Sound

Regarding the report "A Revolution Is Coming Soon to a TV Near You" (May 17):

While impressive progress is being made in regard to the visual aspects of television, no attention seems to be paid to the sound.

When I was a young man 50 years ago, I had a cheap little radio in a Bakelite case that allowed me to adjust the quality of the sound from speech to music very effectively. Today I am sitting before my expensive, high-tech TV set, often frustrated to distraction at the very poor quality of the sound, over which I have no control. I have discussed this with dozens of people, both young and old; all agree and find that this is an absurd situation.

We fail to understand why we should have to be satisfied with muffled and deformed speech, background noises that cannot be filtered out and similar shortcomings. We do indeed wish a revolution would come soon to our TVs.

T. W. HOFFMAN.
Colombo.

BOOKS

SPEAK LOW (WHEN YOU SPEAK LOVE): The Letters of Kurt Weill and Lotte Lenya

Edited and translated from the German by Lys Symonette and Kim H. Kowalke. 528 pages. $39.95. University of California Press.

Reviewed by Terry Teachout

KURT Weill, the composer of "The Threepenny Opera," didn't invent crossover music — that distinction belongs to George Gershwin — but he was one of its earliest and most successful practitioners. Trained as a classical musician, he turned his hand in the '20s to the making of a series of left-wing musical-theater pieces, most of them written with the poet-librettist-thug Bertolt Brecht, that summed up Weimar Germany in much the same way Aaron Copland's "Billy the Kid" summed up America in the '30s.

When the Nazis forced Weill to run for his life (his jazz-flavored music was considered even more scandalous than his Jewish blood), he moved to the United States, retooled his style and became a writer of hugely popular Broadway musicals, turning out such standards as "Speak Low," "My Ship" and "September Song" for such stars as Mary Martin, Gertrude Lawrence and Walter Huston.

In 1926, Weill married Lotte Lenya, a Viennese prostitute turned singer-actress. Lenya subsequently became the chief interpreter of her husband's music, making matchlessly vivid recordings in the '50s of most of his German language theater pieces, and appearing in an off-Broadway production of "The Threepenny Opera" that ran for 2,611 consecutive performances.

Lenya outlived Weill by 31 years, in time becoming something of a pop-culture icon: She recorded with Louis Armstrong, acted in the Broadway version of "Cabaret" and appeared opposite Sean Connery in a James Bond movie, "From Russia With Love."

The Weills' marriage was more of an artistic collaboration than a love match ("When I feel this longing for you," Weill wrote Lenya in 1926, "I most of all think of the sound of your voice, which I love like a very force of nature, like an element"), and it was, to put it mildly, open all night. Weill and Lenya divorced in 1933, reconciled in 1935, remarried in 1937 and stayed together (or, to be exact, stayed married) until Weill's death in 1950; throughout this time, both partners led aggressive extramarital sex lives, though Weill seems to have enjoyed his rather more than Lenya did hers.

Such marriages may be hard on the soul, but they're great for scholarship: Weill and Lenya regularly sent each other letters on the not-infrequent occasions when they were in different places. Their correspondence, much of which survives, has now been collected and edited by Lys Symonette and Kim H. Kowalke. Symonette was Weill's musical assistant and Lenya's accompanist; Kowalke is a noted Weill scholar. Between them, they have produced a volume of the highest possible importance for anyone interested in Kurt Weill's music — and, not at all incidentally, an extraordinarily colorful narrative about two difficult people who needed each other very much, but never quite figured out how to get along.

Symonette and Kowalke have linked the 393 letters in this volume with extensive yet readable notes that make it possible to read "Speak Low" straight through, just like a really good biography. One or two of their facts are askew — I have the impression that they know more about Brecht than Broadway — but the errors in the second half of the book, though irritating, are both infrequent and minor. All in all, I can't think of a better-edited volume of musical letters, or a more entertaining one.

For sheer gossip value, in fact, "Speak Low" is hard to beat: Weill and Lenya were both vain and jealous, knew everybody and liked to tell tales out of school.

Here is a characteristic excerpt from one of Weill's letters, written during his first visit to Hollywood in 1937: "The [George] Gershwin party was 'Hollywood at its worst.' There was a bar with Javanese hula-hula girls, another one with American whores, and one jazz and one Russian orchestra, both of which couldn't play because Gershwin insisted on playing his own compositions again, although everybody (except me) already had an entire Gershwin concert behind them."

Musically speaking, though, the most important thing about "Speak Low" is the way in which it dramatizes the continuity between Weill's collaborations with Brecht and his later work for Broadway. It was long fashionable to dismiss the Broadway musicals as hack work; it is now fashionable to overpraise them. But whatever one thinks of "Lady in the Dark," "One Touch of Venus," "Street Scene" and "Lost in the Stars," it is clear from reading "Speak Low" that Weill himself took these shows every bit as seriously as "The Threepenny Opera" or "The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny."

(Interested readers of "Speak Low" should make a point of seeking out Pearl Records' "Kurt Weill: From Berlin to Broadway," a recently issued two-CD anthology of original-cast material recorded between 1928 and 1943, which makes the point even more forcefully.)

Considered solely as a human drama, of course, the Weill-Lenya marriage was the stuff of which novels are made, and "Speak Low" also sheds much light on this famously troubled relationship. The underlying problem seems plain enough: Weill was by far the greater artist, and Lenya was initially seen as little more than his loyal servant. Small wonder she sought revenge in a series of affairs that appear at first to have hurt him deeply. But two can play at adultery, and Weill's affairs certainly hurt Lenya even more deeply. (It is doubtless significant that all three of the men Lenya married after Weill's death were homosexual.) Marriages of convenience are rarely as convenient as they look, and it is impossible to put down "Speak Low" without recalling the bitter words of Clare Boothe Luce: "In every marriage, there are two marriages: his and hers. His is better."

Terry Teachout, the music critic of Commentary, wrote this for The Washington Post.

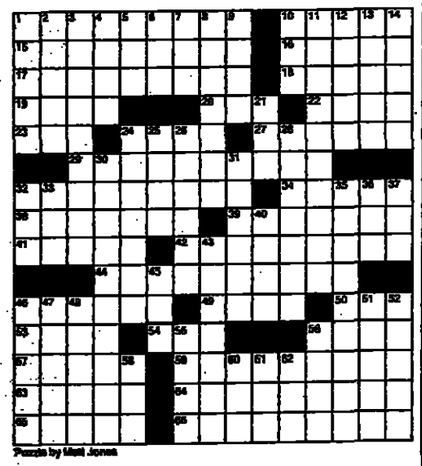
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Sitcom star with a drawl
10 Tie — (carouse)
15 Handicaps
16 Infamous Ford
17 China's Father of the Revolution
18 Shoelace end
19 Sets (on)
20 When to spring forward: Abbr.
22 Mata —
23 Biblical verb suffix
24 Merry, in a game name
27 Offensive football play
29 Conversion figure
32 Willow pattern locale
34 Pays (up)
38 Workers in masks
39 Columbia River port
41 Handles
42 Draining
44 She played "the movie star" in 60's TV
46 Style of disco music
48 Two fives for —
50 Actor Gulager
53 Lotion ingredient
54 Causing tears, maybe
56 Shropshire sounds
57 Noggin
59 Like a human pregnancy
63 Amphetamine
64 Answer questions fully
65 In sorry shape
66 Kitten with a string, e.g.

DOWN

1 Frank's brother
2 "No more!"
3 Welcomers in Oz
4 Registrations of opposition
5 Resembling
6 While
7 Wts. at McDonald's
8 More like an oboe
9 Personnel data: Abbr.
10 —— Locka, Fla.
11 Bistros
12 Zhou ——
13 New Mexico county
14 Away
21 Shoe part
24 Egyptian town of W.W. II fame
25 Kitty Litter inventor Edward
26 Blake of "Gunsmoke"
28 Kind of shampoo
30 Harvested
31 Article of 32-Across
32 Latin dance "step"
33 Early Eastern dynasty
36 Clinton accomplishment
38 "Henry & June" diarist
37 Slump
40 Pivot
43 Seventh heaven
45 Japanese drama
46 Lisbon's river
47 Run off
48 Two-door
51 Java concoction
52 Bring (in)
55 As soon as
58 1976-80 Wimbledon champ
58 Unbuttered
60 Often-contracted word
61 Emissions watchdog: Abbr.
62 Gamepieces



Puzzle by Matt Jones

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shorts.

Solution to Puzzle of June 6

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A	R	O	S	E		O	K	L	A		R	O	V	E
G	R	O	S	S		N	E	E	D		S	P	E	D

TWA
TRANS WORLD AIRLINES
We're up to something good.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

THE premier event in the New York calendar is the Reisinger Knockout Teams, which has been played annually since 1930.

Michael Becker, of Tenafly, N.J., won the Reisinger a quarter of a century ago with his father, B. Jay Becker.

Becker sat East on the diagramed deal from a first-round match and defended four spades.

His partner, Michael Kamil, led the club ace and continued the suit.

South threw a diamond, and misjudged by entering his hand with a diamond lead. He led a trump, and Kamil alertly played the ace and followed with his remaining diamond. He later scored the decisive diamond ruff when his partner gained the lead with the spade king.

North-South saw too late that three no-trump would have been impregnable.

In the replay, however, Becker's brother, Steve Becker, South, demonstrated that four spades could be made after the lead of the ace and another club without guessing the lie of the red suits.

He realized that leading a red suit at the third trick was dangerous since it might set up a ruff for the defense. He therefore made the dramatic move of ruffing his club winner and leading a spade.

With the trumps lying favorably, he could not be prevented from finessing the ten and later leading toward the queen to make his game.

NORTH
♠ Q 10 4
♡ K 8 5 3
◇ Q 10 6
♣ K Q 10

WEST
♠ A J 3
♡ 9 6 2
◇ 8 5
♣ A 8 7 4 2

EAST
♠ K 5
♡ J 10 7
◇ 9 7 4 2
♣ 9 6 5 3

SOUTH (D)
♠ 9 8 7 6 3
♡ A Q 4
◇ A K J 3
♣ J

Neither side was vulnerable. The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 N.T.	Pass
2 ◇	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West led the club ace.

INTERNATIONAL

Stone Age Herders Blazed a Trail to the Real Purpose of Grapes

By John Noble Wilford
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Oenophiles might toast it as the first step toward civilization.

Neolithic farmers in what is now Iran had just settled down to village life, cultivating fields of barley and tending herds of goats and cattle.

At about that time, around 5400 to 5000 B.C., the farmers and herders learned to make good use of wild grapes growing in their midst, and so became the earliest known vintners.

Archaeologists have found the evidence for this in a yellowish residue left in the bottom of a pottery jar from the mud-brick ruins of a Neolithic village at Hajji Firuz Tepe, in the northern Zagros Mountains near the modern town of Urmia.

The residue contains the earliest chemical evidence of wine, a team of archaeologists said in a report published Thursday in the journal Nature.

And since the jar was produced 7,000 to 7,400 years ago, the researchers noted, the discovery has given wine-drinking an extra 1,500 to 2,000 years of history. Until now, the earliest evidence for wine came from similar residues examined at Godin Tepe, which was a Sumerian trading post about 5,500 years ago and is 400 miles (700 kilometers) south of Hajji Firuz. Traders at Godin could also order beer.

The ceramic jar was excavated about two decades ago by Dr. Mary M. Voigt, who is now an anthropologist at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. She found the jar in what appeared to be the cooking area of a square, mud-brick building at Hajji Firuz.

Only recently was it retrieved from storage at the University of Pennsylvania. The residue was analyzed with infrared spectrometry and related chemical tests, conducted by Dr. Patrick E. McGovern, an archaeological chemist, and colleagues at the University of Pennsylvania Museum.

The researchers detected two telltale chemical traces. The residue contained the calcium salt of tartaric acid, which occurs naturally in large quantities only in grapes.

It also contained resin from a widely distributed evergreen tree in the Middle East, Pistacia atlantica. This resin was widely used in antiquity as an additive to inhibit the growth of bacteria and thus prevent the wine from quickly turning to vinegar.

So the Neolithic tipplers must have enjoyed a wine similar to the Greek retsina of today. But Dr. McGovern said the chemical tests could not determine whether the wine had been red or white, or from wild or domesticated grapes.

In their journal report, the researchers noted that pollen in sediments revealed that wild grapes were plentiful in the region, but added: "The wine in the jar might well have been produced from a precursor of the highly successful domesticated type still used to make most modern wine."

In any event, they said, the new evidence shows that wine was being made at the time that people were establishing their first permanent settlements, based on domesticated plants and animals.

Netanyahu Holds Firm On Golan

He Favors Syria Talks But Won't Yield Land

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu called Thursday for a resumption of peace negotiations with Syria, but he reiterated his refusal to give up Israeli control of the annexed Golan Heights.

"We hope to pursue discussions with Damascus," Mr. Netanyahu said during his first tour of Israeli towns since he defeated Prime Minister Shimon Peres last week.

"We began these negotiations at the Madrid conference and at that time we made it clear to Assad that the Golan would remain Israeli," he said, referring to President Hafez Assad and the 1991 talks.

"The Syrians still agreed to come to the negotiating table," he said.

Mr. Netanyahu's Likud was in office when the Madrid conference kicked off the Middle East peace conference. He was government spokesman at the time.

"There are ways to build a climate of confidence between us and the Syrians and to reduce tensions between our government and Damascus," Mr. Netanyahu added, without elaborating.

Israeli-Syrian negotiations have made virtually no progress since the Madrid conference.

U.S.-brokered talks resumed late last year with Mr. Peres indicating a willingness to make territorial concessions on the Golan in exchange for a full normalization of Israeli-Syrian relations.

But the negotiations were suspended during the Israeli election campaign, and the Likud has firmly refused to consider a withdrawal from the Golan, a strategic plateau overlooking northern Israel that Israeli forces seized during the 1967 war and annexed in 1981.

In Damascus on Thursday, Mr. Assad invited the leaders of Egypt and Saudi Arabia to a summit meeting in Damascus to discuss Middle East peace prospects in light of Mr. Netanyahu's election victory.

The surprise announcement came after Saudi Arabia denied that such a meeting would take place in the kingdom on Friday.

The official Syrian Arab News Agency said President Assad had invited King Fahd and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt to join him for a summit meeting focusing on "the Arab situation and the future of the peace process."

Top Egyptian leaders in Cairo confirmed the meeting. But there was no word from Saudi Arabia on King Fahd, who has been in poor health.

Nati Harnik/The Associated Press

Sarah Netanyahu speaking Thursday with Arab and Israeli women of Taibe, while her husband met the men.

ISRAEL: *Jews Brace for a 'Culture War'*

Continued from Page 1

ranking member of United Torah Judaism in Parliament. "We're not going to make a second Iran in the Middle East."

But there is no denying gains made by religious parties in last week's balloting.

Largely because of a change in election law that for the first time permitted Israelis to cast separate votes for prime minister and Parliament, the religious parties increased their representation in the Knesset to 23 from 16 seats.

Although hardly a majority in the 120-seat legislative body, the religious parties are sure to play an important role in the coalition government of Prime Minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu, whose secular but nationalistic Likud bloc has cultivated strong ties to Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox Jews.

Politicians from the religious parties have made it clear that they expect to get something from the new government in return for their support, including such key ministries as housing, education and religious affairs.

On the legislative front, the religious bloc has formulated a lengthy list of demands that include such measures as a ban on the sale of pork, mandatory closing of certain roads on the Jewish Sabbath and a prohibition on archaeological digs at burial sites, according to reports in the Israeli press.

In particular, the religious parties seek to blunt the power of Israel's Supreme Court to revise religious law, a move civil libertarians fear would undermine the country's growing culture of civil law.

Also of concern to civil rights advocates are the parties' demands for legislation that would discriminate against Jews from the liberal Reform movement by denying the validity of conversions to Judaism by Reform rabbis and barring Reform Jews from membership on local religious councils.

Women's rights advocates have expressed alarm over a proposal by the religious parties for new restrictions on abortion. They worry the parties will block their efforts to liberalize divorce laws and establish legal recognition for civil marriage.

Under current Israeli law, the state only recognizes marriages performed by Orthodox rabbis, although civil marriages conducted outside the country have legal standing.

Boaz Kohl, who owns a sports shop on Ben Yehuda Street, is worried. "Look, what they want is to close everything on Shabbat," said Mr. Kohl, 30, using the Hebrew word for the Sabbath. "They don't want people to drive on Shabbat. They'll close every street. They'll close the whole world if they could."

CAR: *Makers Customize for Asian Market*

Continued from Page 1

motive Resources Asia, a Bangkok-based consulting and market-research firm.

Besides Honda, whose City went on sale in Thailand in April, Toyota is developing what it calls an "affordable family car," which it will produce in Thailand starting next year, Mitsubishi plans a car that will double as a passenger carrier and delivery van and Nissan already makes a wagon especially for Asia.

Though Japanese companies hold a 90 percent market share in some Southeast Asian nations, American, European and South Korean companies are in hot pursuit. Asia cars figure in the strategies of many of the automakers.

Chrysler is considering producing a minivehicle, priced at less than $7,000, to sell in China and India. One reason Ford took effective control of Mazda this year was to exploit the Japanese company's expertise in designing small cars for Asia.

Success in Asia could open up markets elsewhere. Low-priced vehicles built to Japanese standards by cheap Asian labor could ultimately be big sellers in Africa, the Middle East and Latin America, and even in wealthier Europe and North America.

Mitsubishi, eager to escape the cost burden of the strong yen, is shifting all production of pickup trucks to Thailand; it will export them to the rest of the world.

But the race to Asia has risks. Horrendous congestion and air pollution in cities like Bangkok could hamper sales sooner than industry executives expect. Most Asian countries are trying to build up their own automobile industries, and many are requiring local manufacturing by foreign carmakers.

As a result, the factories in Asia are often small, economies of scale tend to be limited and profits are usually low — and the possibility of oversupply is high.

Taiwan has 11 automobile assemblers, the same number as Japan, even though production is less than 5 percent of Japan's level. Chrysler is shying away from an earlier plan to assemble vehicles in Vietnam, because a dozen companies will be getting permission to serve a market of only 10,000 to 30,000 vehicles a year.

"How do you go and produce 500 or 1,000 or 1,500 units?" asked Denis Root, general manager of Asia-Pacific operations for Chrysler.

The makers of Asia cars also face the possibility that consumers will shun models if they suspect that the maker has cut corners on quality.

"If they can afford a car in that society, they are middle-class," said Henry D.G. Wallace, who will soon become the president of Mazda, "and the middle class has an aspiration for the best and not yesterday's products."

■ Japanese Imports Increase 20%

Domestic sales of imported vehicles rose 20 percent in May from a year earlier, to 31,378, the Japan Automobile Importers Association said Thursday, Reuters reported from Tokyo.

It was the 31st straight month of year-on-year gains.

CHINA: *Beijing Drops Its Condition to Nuclear Test Ban Treaty*

Continued from Page 1

Geneva for the right to use advanced satellite and other technologies to detect possible treaty violations. China, echoing Third World positions, says that this gives an unfair advantage to the most developed countries.

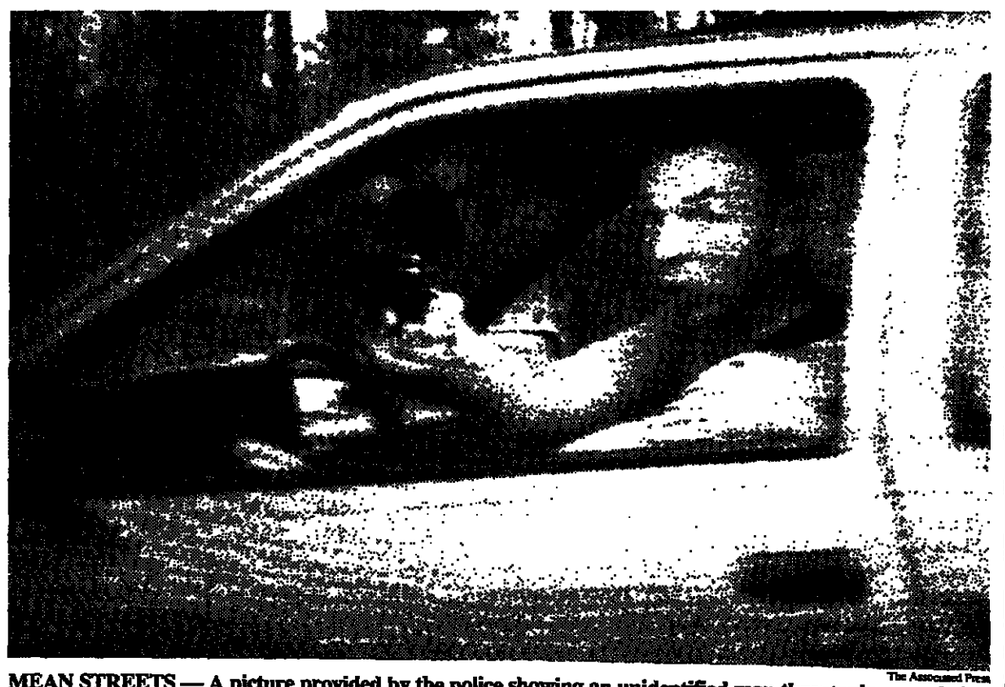
Beijing wants a treaty council to have the power to block or delay inspections not triggered by the international monitoring system, based on seismic sensing stations, radio-nuclide monitors, infrasound detectors and underwater acoustic devices scattered around the world.

With the nuclear test ban conference now entering its final crucial weeks, the Clinton administration is facing critical negotiations with China on several fronts, including the transfer of sensitive technology to nations like Pakistan and Iran and the failure to protect intellectual property rights.

Washington and Beijing have threatened each other with trade sanctions. They have also traded charges of smuggling. Washington says weapons have been smuggled into the United States from China. The Chinese have accused American companies of dumping waste illegally in China.

In Geneva, other nuclear issues beyond verification remain to be settled, some of them extremely complex. Among these is a formula for deciding when the test ban treaty would come into force. This issue has caused disagreements between the United States and the four other declared nuclear weapons powers, Britain, China, France and Russia.

Britain and Russia say that all five declared nuclear powers and three other nations thought to have weapons or the ability to produce them — India, Israel and Pakistan — should not only sign but also ratify the treaty before it can take effect. The United States wants the five nuclear powers plus a given number of other nations to ratify, but has not insisted that the three "threshold" nations be among them.



The Associated Press

MEAN STREETS — A picture provided by the police showing an unidentified man threatening people in a second car with a gun, on a highway between Hannover and Berlin. The man tried to force the car to change lanes so he could overtake it. No one was hurt, but the police have been searching for the driver since April 19.

VOTE: *Dole Stages a Doomed Bill to Prove Anti-Deficit Fervor*

Continued from Page 1

Mr. Clinton rejected the amendment as a "gimmick."

But he said he was ready to meet with Republicans at any time to negotiate the terms of a balanced budget. And he called on them to enact those deficit cuts that were agreed to late last year in budget talks that ended inconclusively.

When those talks stalled, opinion polls showed that most Americans blamed congressional Republicans while crediting Mr. Clinton with protecting popular health and social programs.

But polls have also shown budget-balancing to be a popular issue, supported by up to 80 percent of voters.

Mr. Dole, who leaves the Senate on Tuesday to devote his full attention to the race for the presidency, was clearly aware of those polls.

He said Thursday that a budget amendment would make a real difference to Americans by forcing lawmakers to find savings that ultimately would lead to a sound federal budget, lower interest rates and strong economic growth.

Passing the amendment, he said, "is the single most important thing we can do to ensure the nation's economic security and to protect the American Dream for our children and grandchildren."

White House aides tried to turn the "no" vote against Mr. Dole, saying they found it surprising that the Kansan would be leaving the Senate without any last-minute legislative achievements.

"He could be raising the minimum wage, writing a balanced budget working with the president, reforming welfare and expanding health care," said Michael McCurry, the White House spokesman.

The defeated amendment would have required that a balanced federal budget be achieved by the year 2002. But it would have left it to future legislators to determine which programs to cut or which taxes to raise.

Critics of the amendment say that future Congresses will find their own ways to put off those hard choices, rendering the amendment meaningless.

Amending the constitution is a long and difficult process. The last amendment, the 27th, came in 1992. It bars Congress from passing a pay raise for itself that takes effect in the same term.

One Democratic senator, Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, spoke scathingly of the measure rejected Thursday.

Mr. Byrd, who had led the push to defeat the amendment when it came to a vote a year earlier, said it reminded him of a revival meeting. "Come on in, politicians," he said. "Get baptized with the holy water of the balanced-budget amendment, and then go on about your business and sin, sin, sin."

Mr. Dole has been trying, in speeches and actions on the Senate floor, to stake out his differences with Mr. Clinton. In a speech Monday, he said that if he were elected president, he would eliminate the budget deficit and cut taxes.

NET: *Nabbed in Guatemala – by the Long Arm of the Internet*

Continued from Page 1

divided Antigua's small American community, which knew him and his wife during their lengthy sojourn as Bill and Anna Young. The Guatemala Weekly, the paper that first wrote about his presence here, said in an editorial last week that "all the people who knew Anna and Bill were torn between their personal feelings of friendship and their sense of social responsibility." The editorial was headlined: "Adiós, Bill and Anna."

Antigua, a Spanish colonial town that lies in a lush valley, has long been a magnet for wandering Americans. There are those whose failed businesses, failed marriages or failed lives led them on a search for revitalization; those who sought more adventure than suburban America has to offer and, more than occasionally, people trying to escape the long arm of U.S. law enforcement agents or tax authorities.

It is a lazy sort of place. It is the kind of place where Mr. Rogge, calling himself Bill Young in the spring of 1992, could amble into the offices of the Revue, an English-language magazine owned by Mr. Biskovich, and place a classified ad offering his services as "Mr. Fix-It" — an American who could handle just about any odd job thrown his way.

The Biskoviches, like many of the Americans here for whom Mr. Rogge repaired cars, washing machines and boat motors, befriended the handyman and his wife, who went to work as a bookkeeper at the Revue. The Youngs quickly blended into the community, making the rounds at parties, telling sketchy stories of a past life on a sailboat, inviting their friends over for dinner.

Few people here considered it odd that Bill and Anna revealed little about their past. "Down here you don't delve too deeply," Mr. Biskovich said.

It was a past, according to the FBI, that included a string of convictions on charges of car theft and grand larceny that eventually landed him in prison.

CURE: *Healer's Remedy for AIDS Becomes a Recipe for Disaster*

Continued from Page 1

it put up a battery of toilets and dug wells for fresh water. It also graded the road, and the Red Cross donated tents, all of which only served to add credibility to Mr. Chisupe's enterprise.

"People who had stuck to one partner stopped believing this was necessary," said Dr. Peter Van Bommel, who heads the local hospital in Liwonde. "Even the bar girls were very happy to have sex without a condom if the customer said he had been to Chisupe. The really frightening part is that in maybe five years we will see a super peak in the statistics, all because of this episode."

Malawi, a sliver of a country tucked between Mozambique and Zambia, has one of Africa's highest rates of AIDS. It is the rich and educated who have the highest incidence of the disease. Lester Chitsulo, the director of Malawi's National AIDS Control program, said that infection rates among pregnant women in Blantyre, the country's financial center, may be 30 percent. But in rural areas the figure drops to about 10 percent.

The flow of people into Liwonde, thanks to Mr. Chisupe's fame, created a boom-town atmosphere in the small town in southern Malawi, one of the poorest countries in the world.

"People came from all over the world," said Mr. Chitsulo. "It's one of those things that happens when you're desperate."

There is still a steady stream of visitors and about 40 people live in the now-grimy white tents. Three times a day, they drink Mr. Chisupe's concoction.

Most of the people in the tents are thin. But they said they feel better now than when they arrived. Chipata Jameson, 39, said he had diarrhea all the time in his village. But after three weeks in Liwonde, he said it had stopped. Chepetsani Marison, 30, cycled more than 150 miles to get to Liwonde.

"At first I was so sure I had the sickness," he said, referring to AIDS. "Now it has changed. This is a good thing that has happened here."

Mr. Chisupe said his dream told him he could not accept money for his cure. But he does allow donations, which he used to purchase clean drinking water for the hordes that arrived.

If he has made any money from the cure, it does not show. He lives in one of the small huts in the compound, sleeping on a broken metal cot.

Business has been slow lately because, Mr. Chisupe said, most Malawians have already taken his cure. The recipe is a secret and it must be ingested on his property, he said. Convinced that it works, he said the deaths that continue are from other causes.

Traditional healers are a part of the medical network here because there are far too few Western-style clinics to help the sick. But in the case of AIDS, the traditional healers often work against the goals of prevention and treatment.

"This has been very unfortunate," said Mr. Chitsulo of the National AIDS Control program. "A lot of the traditional healers do good." He added that the healers can often alleviate discomfort from chronic diarrhea, thrush or even HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

The toll the disease is taking is enormous, Mr. Chitsulo said. Some businesses are losing up to 20 percent of their work force each year. And the cost of burials — tradition dictates that the dead must be returned to their home villages — is huge.

"A lot of people are dying here," he said. "If you ask people how their weekend was, they'll tell you they went to a funeral."

Summertime in Venice: The Action's on the Water

Comune di Venezia

Venice's regattas, which date back to the 13th century, include about 120 races between clubs but there are nine major public ones between May and Septem ber.

By Roderick Conway Morris
International Herald Tribune

VENICE — The clinging mists of winter and mournful blasts of foghorns are all but a distant memory, the last spring storms and squalls of icy rain have passed, and now day after day the city and its neighboring islands are bathed in golden summery light. In short, the season has arrived when, if you're trying to track down one of your Venetian friends at the weekend (and sometimes on a weekday, too) and you're lucky enough to find anyone at home at all, you'll be told, as like or not, that the person you are searching for is *in barca*.

"In barca," literally "in a boat," is a spectacularly ill-defined location, which indicates that the person is somewhere, heaven knows quite where, on the surface of Venice's nearly 200 square miles of lagoon. Being in barca is indeed the ancestral birthright, the ideal state of being of this amphibious Mediterranean race — a chance, according to mood, to get away from it all and retreat into calm, reflective solitude, to go fishing, to get seriously fit, to go AWOL with a couple of friends, or to explore, perhaps by moonlight, a romantic possibility.

The "barca" in question might be an oar-driven *sandolo*, (the Ur-lagoon craft), a lateen-rigged, dinghy-like *topo*, a fiberglass tub with an antique, chugging inboard engine, a snazzy speedboat with an absurdly enormous outboard motor, driven at an angle of 45 degrees by what looks like a double-headed boy-girl troll, and powered by an explosive mix of recklessness, testosterone and juvenile narcissism, or yet again, a serene, solid working barge, temporarily fitted out for an all-day, family-and-friends excursion with a long table, chairs, crockery, cutlery, glasses, serving dishes, massive cooking pots and casks of wine, for a waterborne banquet al fresco.

The one vessel you are highly unlikely to encounter on the open water — except in its streamlined, brightly-colored racing version — is the classic, sleekly funereal gondola, an urban conveyance par excellence, which looks almost as out of place in the wilds of the lagoon as a black London taxi cab in a Kentish country lane.

For all the attractions of modern power boats, thousands of Venetians of every age and class still keep alive the hallowed art of *la voga alla Veneta*, Venetian-style rowing, which is done in a variety of craft, but always standing and facing the prow of the boat. (The technique is a tricky one, especially when rowing solo, and takes some time to master.) There are many privately owned Venetian-style rowing boats, but there are also about 50 clubs scattered around the city and lagoon, which offer their members the use of a range of boats for a subscription fee of about $10 a month. Venice gave the world the word "regatta" — and there are more than 120 such races between clubs every year. In addition, the *comune*, or municipality, organizes an annual program of nine public regattas between May and September.

HOTLY CONTESTED These hotly contested, picturesque sporting occasions, over half of which take place at islands around the lagoon, are a first-class way of seeing the Venetians at play. Given that these meets are almost exclusively attended by local people, they also offer visitors a chance to see aspects of traditional life on the lagoon otherwise difficult to witness. The regattas include races for men, young men and women. The winners are presented with a *bandiera*, or pennant: red for those that come in first, white for second, green for third and blue for fourth. All the competitors also receive cash prizes, those placed first taking home nearly 1.5 million lire ($1,000) each. Most male champions are professional watermen, such as gondoliers, fishermen, bargemen and boatbuilders, and many of the most successful women rowers, too, are the daughters of families that make their living on the water.

Venice's regattas go back at least to the 13th century. Some were attached to church festivals, held to celebrate military victories, or to entertain visiting foreign big-wigs. Two of today's major regattas, the Sensa (Ascension Day) and Redentore (Festival of the Savior, in July, celebrating the city's delivery from the plague in 1577), are still joined to important dates on the Venetian religious calendar.

Champion rowers can have successful careers spanning 30 years or more — with perfection of rowing style and knowledge of the lagoon's complex and shifting currents and tides not infrequently as decisive as sheer muscle. Indeed, rowing partnerships sometimes consist of an experienced older man and a younger rower to provide maximum power. And, as in the past, winners become popular heroes in their neighborhoods, and the all-time greats command recognition and respect wherever they go.

Since 1844 the boats used in regattas, whether they be the *mascareta* or *pupparin* (lightweight types of sandolo), gondola, or *caorlina* (a barge for six oarsmen), have been painted in different primary colors to help the spectators and judges follow the race.

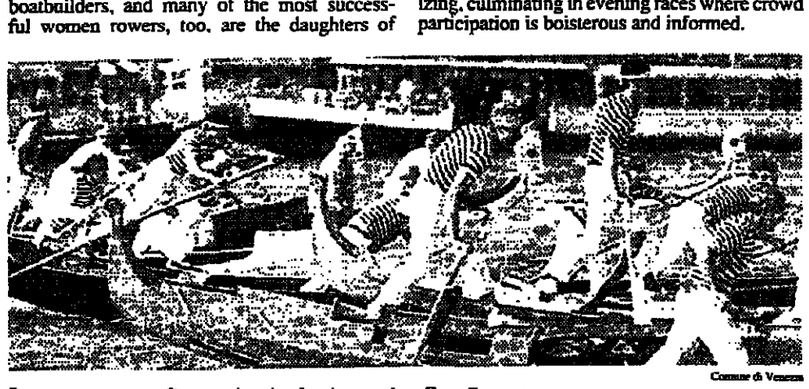
Every regatta has its distinctive setting and flavor. The Murano Regata on the first Sunday of July, for example, is the only one for solo rowers, with the men using gondolas for men, and the women and young men, pupparini. This is a punishing competition at the best of times, but four years ago, to add to the excitement, a sudden storm blew up during the men's race. The vision of the startlingly colored gondolas far out on the lagoon battling the wind and waves against a sky that on one side was filled with sunlight and on the other a pitchblack wall, was like something out of Hieronymous Bosch, and the finish on Murano's main canal, by now a heaving mass of tempest-tossed water, a terrific drama to the last.

THE Regata Storica (Historical Regatta), which was established in 1899, to preserve the tradition of the many regattas rowed along the length of the Grand Canal during the centuries of the Venetian Republic, is held on the first Sunday of September. It is the only one attended by large numbers of *foresti*, or outsiders as the Venetians call non-Venetians of any kind, whether Italian or foreign. However, despite the introductory procession of ceremonial boats, it is by no means a touristic event as far as the rowers and fans are concerned.

The men's race is rowed in the *gondolino*, a special light, fast gondola introduced in 1825. Five consecutive wins in the Regata Storica earns the rower the coveted title of *Re del Remo*, or King of the Oar. Many Venetians watch from their boats moored along the banks of the Grand Canal, but it is also possible to buy seats on floating grandstands set up by the comune, or at the gondoliers' *tragheto* (ferry) stations.

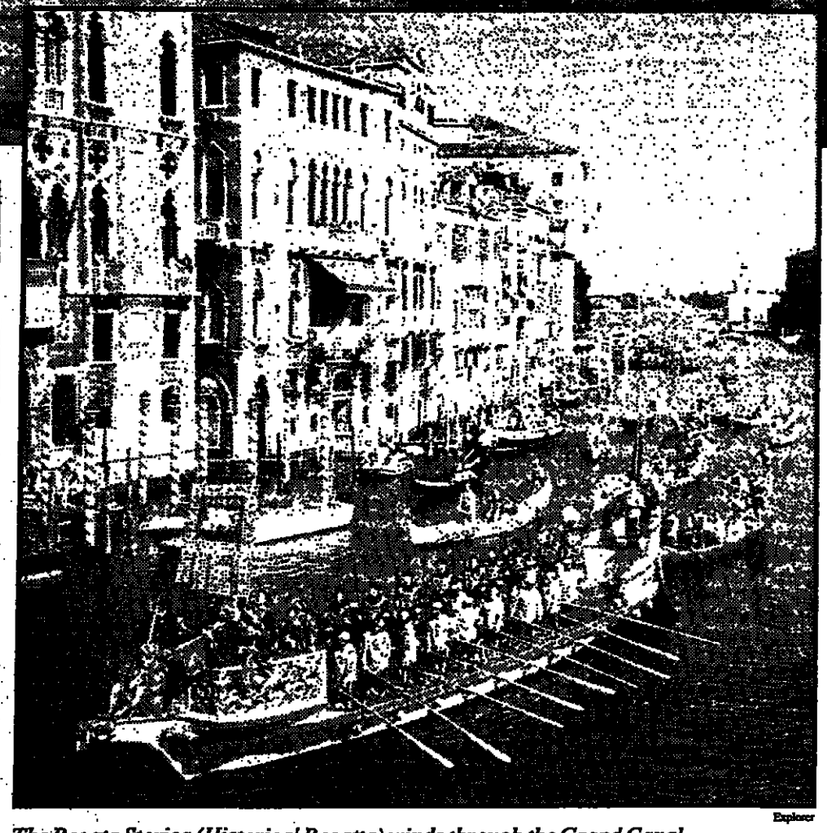
Passions can run high and there is almost always a tremendous rumpus at the end of the *caorlina* race (since overtaking in these barges in the confines of the canal is extremely difficult), as enraged, sweating oarsmen bandy accusations, threats and choice insults — all, fortunately perhaps, in the impenetrable Venetian dialect — and the bemused Italian and foreign dignitaries, invited along to hand out the prizes, look on.

But perhaps the most enjoyable regattas for those in search of the proverbial good day out are the ones at Pellestrina (on the the first Sunday of August, when there is a local *festa* celebrating an apparition of the Virgin on the island) and Burano (in mid-September). These islands are both populous and lively fishing and boatbuilding communities. Their lagoonscapes are remote and lovely, and the day of each regatta an extended festival of eating, drinking and socializing, culminating in evening races where crowd participation is boisterous and informed.



Comune di Venezia

Row, men , row: Competing in the Ascension Day Regatta.



Explorer

The Regata Storica (Historical Regatta) winds through the Grand Canal.

FESTIVALS

Cornucopia Of Jazz

Nicolas Asseo/IHT

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribune

EVERY year there is the temptation to warn readers to take advantage of the extraordinary cornucopia of summer jazz in romantic places while it still lasts. It certainly cannot go on like this. And then it always does.

FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DJANGO REINHARDT Samois-sur-Seine, France, June 28-30. The bucolic riverside town in the exurbs of Paris where Django lived and died has hosted a Gypsy-oriented festival for 17 years now. Boulou and Elios Ferré, Les Manouches de Saint-Ouen and other Gypsy groups are joined by Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Jacky Terrasson and the Roots All-Stars (including Kirk Lightsey, Nathan Davis and Benny Golson). *Tel: (33-1) 64-69-54-66.*

COPENHAGEN JAZZ FESTIVAL July 5-14. Niels-Henning Orsted Pederson, Ray Charles, Jan Garbarek, Horace Silver, Wayne Shorter. *Tel: (45) 33-93-20-13.*

MONTREUX JAZZ FESTIVAL Switzerland, July 5-20. This carnival on the Swiss Riviera has been turning ever more pop-ish. Music with an aim other than fame or fortune is in the minority. Stephan Eicher, Kenny Barron, Deep Purple, Toots and the Maytalls, Simply Red, Van Morrison, US3, The Pogues, McCoy Tyner, Quincy Jones, Kurt Elling, Elvis Costello, Herb Alpert, David Sanborn, Sanatana. *Tel: (41-21) 623-4567.*

UMBRIA JAZZ FESTIVAL Perugia, Italy, July 8-23. If one jazz bash a season is your limit, this is as good as any. Many styles (no rock) 12 hours a day in gardens, halls, churches, schools, bars and mind-blowing ruins. Keith Jarrett Trio, Jim Hall, Joe Lovano, Michel Petrucciani, João Gilberto, Joe Henderson, Olympia Brass Band, Sonny Rollins, Enrico Rava, Roy Hargrove, Carla Bley, Tony Bennett, The Jazz Crusaders. *Tel: (39-75) 573-3363.*

NICE JAZZ FESTIVAL Nice, July 12-21. A musical picnic on a green hill with three bandstands featuring World Music and "new tendencies." Galliano, Phish, Aziza Mustafa Zadeh, Greg Osby, Gilberto Gil, Doctor John, Taj Mahal, the Zawinul Syndicate, Willy DeVille, Tal Farlowe and "Homage to Don Cherry" with Nano Vasconcelos and Dewey Redman. *Tel: (33) 93-21-10-00.*

NORTHSEA JAZZ FESTIVAL The Hague, July 14-16. It's easier to list who's *not* here. Concerts in 13 halls eight hours a day under the same (Congress Center) roof add up to your money's worth. Brad Mehldau, The Manhattan Transfer, Yellowjackets, Philip Catherine, Lionel Hampton, Cassandra Wilson, George Clinton and "The Return of the Mothership," George Benson, Monty Alexander, James Taylor, Defunkt, Al Jarreau, Little Richard, Bill Frisell, Toshiko Akyoshi, Steve Coleman, B.B. King, Ellis and Branford Marsalis. *Tel: (31-15) 214-8900.*

JAZZ IN MARCIAC Marciac, France, Aug. 8-17. Alone on the jazz map in August, Marciac in the Gers, Southwest France, puts fine final punctuation on the season. The friendly, familial, country hosts (bed and breakfasts available) know how to listen to the music. Charles Mingus and Illinois Jacquet big bands, Wynton Marsalis, Eddy Louiss, Robert Cray, Eddie Palmieri, Joshua Redman, Woods, Maceo Parker, Herbie Hancock. *Tel: (33) 62-09-33-33*

SHOPPING

Chaos Theory of Design: Sleek Furniture in Tokyo

By Carol Lutfy

TOKYO — With the opening of its first shop last December, Idee, Japan's leading interior design company, has expanded its reach from the higher realm of style into the more whimsical spheres of "lifestyle."

Located opposite the Nezu Institute of Fine Arts (Tokyo's most venerable treasure trove of traditional art), the boutique embodies the spirit of the 1990s, with its temporary architecture, its cutting-edge aesthetic and a borderless approach to merchandising.

In addition to its showrooms of sleek furniture, the Idee building houses a design gallery, a café (with seating on a terrace) as well as an old-fashioned English-style cigar bar.

The spaces are conspicuously under-designed, but clearly chic: They are jammed to capacity every night.

How a furniture store also became one of Tokyo's hippest hangouts can be explained by the good timing and talent scouting of Teruo Kurosaki, Idee's 47-year-old founder, a self-described former hippie with a degree in physics.

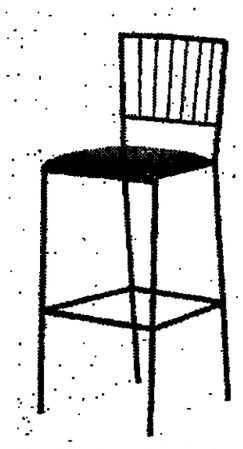
Since creating Idee 15 years ago, Kurosaki says he has identified a missing element in the Japanese consumer's interest in style.

There has been great interest in the fine arts, and Japanese architects and fashion designers have become stars.

What is lacking, he believes, is a sense of how to decorate the home. And he clearly is marketing himself as the design guru who will change all that. With unabashed confidence, he says: "I have no competition in Japan."

"Japanese are good at form, but the substance is missing," he says.

"I am shocked at their homes — even custom-designed houses with substantial art collections. People live without taste, without spirit — so sadly."



Slender pipe high chair sells for 45,000 yen ($415).

So the shop has a hip but at the same time a makeshift image. The four-story boutique was planned and designed in 10 days; construction took less than three months.

Architecturally, it is a composite of three buildings, unified by a brick, concrete, and steel facade in shades of white, cream and burgundy. Two geodisk plastic domes on the roof serve as temporary offices for visiting designers and give the strucures a funky charm.

Inside, the store meanders from "sensitive multicultural" (natural palette, recyclable materials) to "harsh urban" (scream-at-you colors, bold forms, stark light).

In addition to selling Asian antique accent pieces, its three basic lines are Idee (Bauhaus-inspired); Forme ('50s and '60s style); and Paysan (basic ageless classics).

The eclecticism is the point, Kurosaki says, adding, "Japan is the trash can of the world. We take other cultures and we recycle them."

Kurosaki hopes to expand his concept into a chain of shops, and says he has started joint ventures for production in Thailand and Bali. He says that he aspires to be the Terence Conran of Japan, "but better." "Conran was good at marketing, but not at challenging the status quo of design," Kurosaki says.

"His vision was strictly commercial. If a company becomes big and important, its obligation to society is to feed young artists."

Kurosaki has worked regularly with young up-and-coming designers.

Beyond projects with established designers, like Shiro Kuramata, Idee has gotten valuable mileage out of its early collaborations with Marie Christine Dorner, Philippe Starck and Marc Newson, each of whom has developed a couple of lines with the company.

STARCK began collaborating with Idee in 1987. Among his many projects for the boutique was a line of objects and upholstered furniture now associated with the Paramount Hotel in New York.

Idee was also the first retailer to introduce Newson in Milan in 1989.

"Marc showed this kind of Australian surf design, made a splash, and went home a star," Kurosaki recalls. "We want to send other designers home as stars."

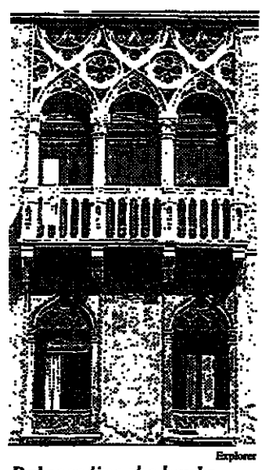
Idee, 6-1-16 Minami Aoyama Minato-ku, Tokyo 107, tel. 3409-7080. Store hours 11 A.M. to 7 P.M. Cafe hours 11:30 A.M. to 11 P.M.

Carol Lutfy is an American journalist who writes frequently about Asia.

Coffee Bar

He is designing a coffee bar (à la Manhattan's Angelika Film Center) for Shibuya's fashionable Cinema Rise. And he has recently completed 30 boutique interiors for the Takeo Kikuchi label, using architectural salvage from London.

Formerly an importer of English antiques, he is a self-taught designer and describes his design concept variously as "chaos," "anarchy," and "recycled." Of his customers, he says, "I want to shock them with various angles."



Explorer

Palaces line the banks.

LEISURE

THE CAR COLUMN

After the Revolution: Citroën's Xantia Activa Keeps Flame Alive

By Gavin Green

IT'S always the same. When revolutionaries get old, they invariably go soft. Citroën, the maverick, the car industry's Robespierre, has introduced some of the world's most extraordinary and farsighted cars in between regular bouts of bankruptcy.

There was the 1930s Traction Avant, the world's first mass-produced, front-wheel-drive car, boasting independent suspension and a one-piece monocoque body. The '40s gave us the 2CV, which became as much a part of the cliché French countryside as strings of garlic, freshly cooked baguettes and old guys in berets smoking Gauloises as they wobbled along on unstable bicycles.

Best of all was the DS, probably the greatest single jump ahead in driving history, a streamlined shark-nosed sedan that hit an unsuspecting world in 1955. It had the most sublimely comfortable (hydropneumatic) suspension the world had seen, cleaved the air with aircraft-like efficiency, had a marvelous Art Deco dash and today is still one of the great motoring collectibles.

Citroën, then, isn't your everyday car company. What a pity that it's now building such everyday cars. There is a good (or more accurately, a rational) reason for the cop-out. Citroën is now owned by Peugeot, after its most recent financial collapse in the '70s. Only two current Citroëns keep the flame alive: the big XM, laden with Citroën gadgetry and oddball looks (now, to be frank, past its best) and the Activa version of the big-selling Xantia. The basic Xantia isn't a complete cop-out: Its styling has an unorthodox and appealing twist and even the cheapest model has hydropneumatic suspension, apart from the XM, the only Citroën so equipped.

But it is the priciest Activa model that truly carries on old André Citroën's good work. Its chief virtue is that it improves on the hydropneumatic suspension concept. In a nutshell, this car rides just as sublimely as a conventional hydropneumatically sprung Citroën. As a bonus, there's no body roll. Attack a corner at speed in the new Xantia Activa, and the car stays as flat as a Formula One racer around Silverstone. And yet it still rides as well as a Rolls-Royce. This magical mix of previously immiscible qualities — flat handling and soft ride — is a major breakthrough, probably the cleverest of the past year.

Side Benefits

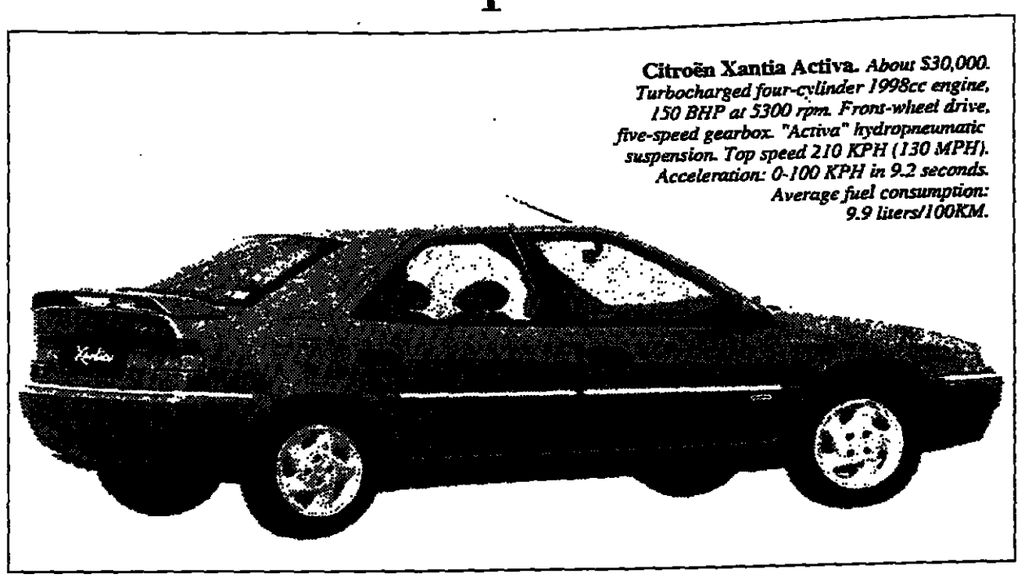
No-roll handling has many side benefits, apart from the obvious one of improving cornering behavior. It helps safety, because the Xantia is more controllable mid-bend, the tires having a nice square purchase on the tarmac, as they're meant to. It helps comfort, because passengers are not falling off their seats on corners and, if you're so inclined, you can drive around bends faster.

To help give the Xantia a sporty mien, the Activa boasts a turbocharged four-cylinder 16-valve engine, of good heart. It's strong and fast, even if it lacks the timbre and smoothness of a good German six-cylinder.

Inside, we find a mix of soft seats (which I find fine, but I have friends who reckon they induce backache), roominess, good standard equipment levels, but that typically French dismissiveness of quality fabrics and materials. It's as though the French designers — at Peugeot, Citroën or Renault, they're all as bad — expend considerable effort to get the outside looks and the suspension right, but then lose interest when it comes to the aesthetics and tactility of the cabin.

German and British designers put much more effort into the cabin, which is, after all, the place where the person who has just forked out all the money for the car is going to be spending most of his or her time.

French building quality has improved greatly, however. Whereas their cars (along with Italian and British cars) used to have a reputation, especially in the United States, for being about as reliable as a president's election promises, they now hang together pretty well. Even the once happy-go-lucky European market just won't countenance anything less, these days. The Japanese have shown that cheap cars needn't be cheapskate cars.



Citroën Xantia Activa. *About $30,000. Turbocharged four-cylinder 1998cc engine, 150 BHP at 5300 rpm. Front-wheel drive, five-speed gearbox. "Activa" hydropneumatic suspension. Top speed 210 KPH (130 MPH). Acceleration: 0-100 KPH in 9.2 seconds. Average fuel consumption: 9.9 liters/100KM.*

Despite its modern structure quality, modern looks, and despite being a progeny of Citroën under Peugeot, the Xantia Activa is something of an old school Citroën: oddball, distinctive, technically superior.

A revolutionary having its last hurrah, or the sign of a genuine resurgence from Europe's one-time boldest carmaker? Probably more the former. Still, it's nice to see an old radical regaining some vitriol again, donning combat fatigues and weapons in the noble search to kick the world's carmakers out of their conservatism.

Next: The Volvo S40

Gavin Green is the editor in chief of Car magazine.

ARTS GUIDE

AUSTRIA

Vienna

Kunstforum Bank Austria, tel: (1) 71191-5737, closed Saturdays and Sundays. To Aug. 4: "Dessin en Autriche, 1908-1938." 130 works by 59 artists, including Klimt, Kokoschka, Schiele and Wotruba.

Kunsthistorisches Museum, tel: (1) 52 177, closed Mondays. Continuing/To Aug. 26: "Auguste Rodin." A selection of sculptures and drawings by the French sculptor.

Wiener Staatsoper, tel: (1) 513-1513. "Die Walküre." Directed by Adolf Dresen, conducted by Daniel Barenboim, with Plácido Domingo, Waltraub Meier, Falk Strukmann and René Pape. June 8, 12, 16, 20 and 24.

BELGIUM

Brussels

Palais des Beaux-Arts, tel: (2) 507-8469, closed Mondays. To Sept. 8: "Ilya Kabakov: Sur le Toit." An installation by the Ukrainian artist Ilya Kabakov (born in 1933). Spectators walk above the roofs of an imaginary city and peek through open windows into banal rooms, each representing a stage in life, from youth to paternity. Also, to Sept. 8: "Art et Résistance." From an American collection, a selection of 200 German paintings and works on paper created between 1912 and 1940, including works by artists who were denigrated in Nazi Germany, such as Beckmann, Grosz, Nussbaum and Dix.

BRITAIN

London

Barbican Art Gallery, tel: (171) 638-88-91, open daily. To Aug. 18: "Eve Arnold: In Retrospect." A critic of McCarthyism, apartheid and poverty, the American photographer also pictured glamour and high-life. More than 200 photographs show her use of black and white in the 1950s, color in the '70s and her return to black and white in the '80s.

Hayward Gallery, tel: (171) 261-0127, open daily. To Aug. 19: "Claes Oldenburg: An Anthology." The Pop artist is best known for his soft sculptures and giant objects as he takes familiar objects into the realm of the extraordinary. Around 150 sculptures, maquettes, drawings and photographs are featured.

DENMARK

Copenhagen

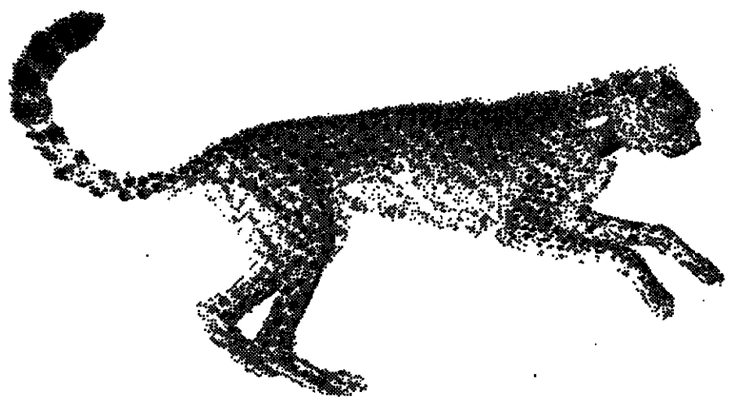
Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek, tel: 33-41-81-41, closed Mondays. To Aug. 31: "Byzantine Art." A selection of architecture, mosaics, icons, illuminated manuscripts and sculptures dating from the beginning of the Christian era to the fall of Constantinople.

FRANCE

Paris

Centre National de la Photographie, tel: (1) 53-76-12-31, closed Tuesdays. To July 29: "Marc Riboud: Quarante Ans de Photographie en Chine, 1956-1996." The Frenchman photographs a multi-faceted China, in the cities, villages and inside houses, from the poverty and egalitarianism of Mao days to the glass towers, cellular phones and McDonalds of recent years.

Musée du Louvre, tel: (1) 40-20-51-51, closed Tuesdays. To Aug. 5: "Pisanello, 1395-1455: Le Peintre aux Sept Vertus." More than 300 works by the Italian artist — five paintings out of six known are exhibited — as well as 200 drawings by his contemporaries and other artists he influenced.



At the Louvre, in Paris, a red-collared cheetah leaps in a Pisanello watercolor.

Musée d'Orsay, tel: (1) 40-49-48-14, closed Mondays. To July 28: "Menzel, 1815-1905: La Névrose du Vrai." The German painter, Adolf von Menzel, favored historical and military subjects, particularly scenes reflecting Frederick the Great's campaigns.

Opéra Comique, tel: (1) 42-44-45-46. "Carmen." Directed by Louis Erlo, conducted by Lawrence Foster/David Heusel, with Katarina Karneus/Martine Olmeda, André Cognet/Ludovic Tezier and Luca Lombardo/Keith Olsen. June 19, 21, 25, 27 and 28.

Petit Palais, tel: (1) 42-65-12-73, closed Mondays. Continuing/To July 21: Albrecht Dürer: Oeuvre Gravé." More than 200 woodcuts and drypoints by the German engraver and painter (1471-1528). While illustrating Biblical and mythological themes, Dürer was the first artist to engrave portraits.

GERMANY

Cologne

Museum für Ostasiatische Kunst, tel: (221) 940-5180, closed Mondays. Continuing/To July 21: "Aus der Welt des Samurai." Until the end of the Shogunate in 1867, the samurais were the warrior aristocracy of Japan. The exhibition features shields and weapons and a suit of armor.

Stuttgart

Staatsgalerie, tel: (711) 212-4074, closed Mondays. To Sept. 1: "Kunst auf Papier aus 500 Jahren." Watercolors, collages, drawings and other works on paper, covering 500 years of creation from Dürer, Piranesi, Hogarth, Goya, Munch, Picasso to contemporary artists such as Mario Merz and Walter de Maria.

GREECE

Athens

National Archeological Museum, tel: (1) 821-7717, open daily. To Sept. 1: "The Aidonia Treasure." More than 300 gold, stone and glass ornaments that were plundered from Mycenaean tombs near Nemea in the Peloponnesus in the 1970s and were recently returned to Greece. Most of the items can be dated to about 1500-1400 B.C.

ISRAEL

Jerusalem

Israel Museum, tel: (2) 708-811, open daily. Continuing/ To Aug. 31: "Fernando Botero: Monumental Sculptures."

ITALY

Bologne

Teatro Comunale, tel: (51) 529-999. "Tristan und Isolde." Directed by Ruth Berghaus, conducted by Christian Thielemann, with Heikki Siukola, Gabrielle Schnaut, Hans Tschammer and Falk Struckmann. June 9, 12, 15, 18 and 21.

NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam

Het Muziektheater, tel: (20) 6-255-455. "Otello." Directed by Klaus Michael Grüber, conducted by Riccardo Chailly, with Vladimir Bogachov, Timothy Noble and Charlotte Margiono. June 8, 11, 16, 18, 21 and 24.

Groningen

Groninger Museum, tel: (50) 666-555, closed Mondays. Continuing/To June 16: "A Utopia in Plastics." Plastic household appliances and furniture from 1960 to 1973, a period characterized by synthetic materials, bright colors and organic shapes.

SCOTLAND

Edinburgh

Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, tel: (31) 332-2266, open daily. To Sept. 22: "Alberto Giacometti, 1901-1966." 80 sculptures, 30 paintings and a selection of drawings, including Surrealist works of the early 1930s, sketches and paintings made by Giacometti in his youth, and the postwar standing figures.

SINGAPORE

Singapore National Museum, tel: (65) 338-0000, closed Mondays. Continuing/To July: "Imperial Qing: Blue-and-White Porcelain from the Tianminlou Foundation." An exploration of the differences and similarities in shape and decoration between blue-and-white porcelain created since the end of the 13th century during the Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties.

SPAIN

Valencia

IVAM Centre Julio Gonzalez, tel: (6) 386-3000, closed Mondays. To June 25: "Utopía, Ilusión y Adaptación: Arte Soviético 1928-1945." Photographs, montages, paintings, drawings and projects for exhibitions, covering the period of the first quinquennial plans and the beginning of World War II. Includes works by Rodchenko, Markov and Elkin.

SWITZERLAND

Lugano

Museo Cantonale d'Arte, tel: (91) 22-93-56, closed Mondays. To June 30: "Video Art 1966-1996: Il Tempo, La Luce et la Materia." The exhibition documents the relationship between art and electronics through the works of international artists such as Nam June Paik, Steina Vasulka, Bill Viola and Ko Nakajima.

Martigny

Fondation Pierre Gianadda, tel: (26) 22-39-78, open daily. To Nov. 11: "Edouard Manet." About 100 portraits, landscapes and still lifes by the French painter.

UNITED STATES

New York

Guggenheim Museum, tel: (212) 423-38-40, closed Thursdays. To Sept. 29: "Africa: The Art of a Continent." More than 500 works of art, from sculpture and mural painting to ceremonial pieces, ceramics, jewelry and textiles; the earliest object is more than 1.6 million years old, and the most recent were created by 20th-century artists. Also, "Insight: African Photographers, 1940 to the Present." Explores the achievements of 28 African photographers in the years that marked the emergence of independent African states.

Museum of Modern Art, tel: (415) 357-4000, closed Mondays. To Sept. 3: "From Bauhaus to Pop: Masterworks given by Philip Johnson." 80 paintings, sculptures and drawings as well as architectural models and drawings donated to the museum by the American architect. Includes Abstract Expressionist, Pop Art and Minimalist works.

Philadelphia

Museum of Art, tel: (215) 684-7880. To Aug. 18: "Cézanne." A survey of Cézanne's works over 60 years, including 90 paintings and 70 watercolors and drawings. The two final versions of "Les Grandes Baigneuses" are brought together from the National Gallery, London and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Washington

Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, tel: (202) 357-2700, open daily. Through 1997: "Puja: Expressions of Hindu Devotion." 125 cult objects in bronze, brass, copper, wood, silver, granite, and terracotta, ranging from the 9th to the 20th centuries.

CLOSING SOON

June 9: "The William S. Paley Collection." **Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo.**

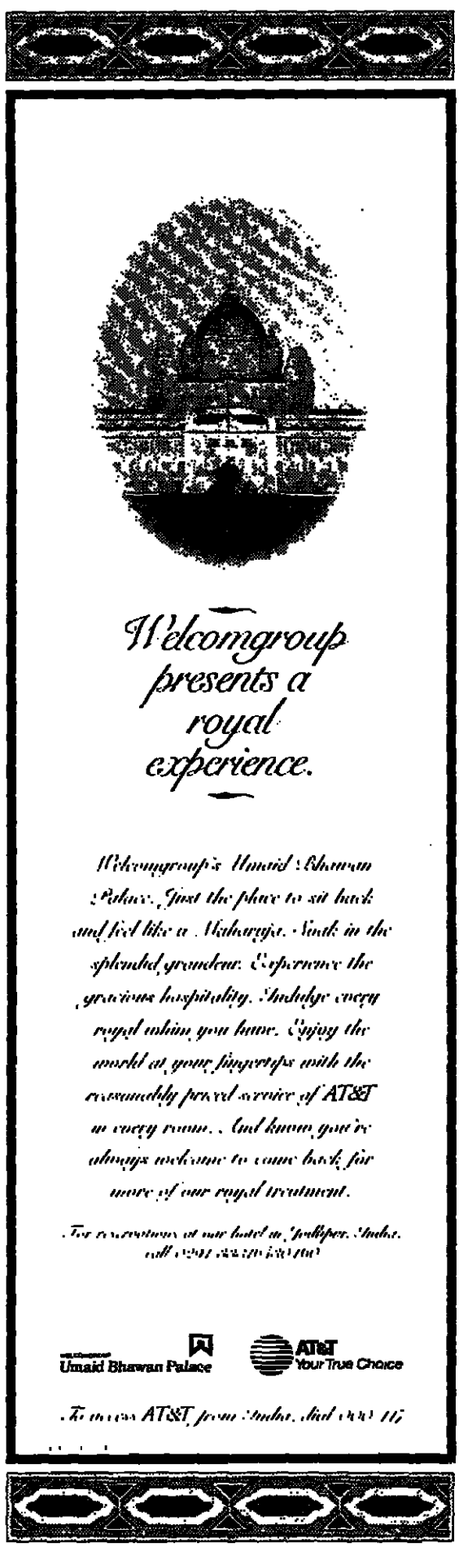
June 9: "Paul Strand: Die Welt von meiner Tür." **Rupertinum, Salzburg, Austria.**

June 9: "Josef Sudek, 1896-1976." **Prague Castle, Prague.**

"Les Champs de la Sculpture." **Champs-Elysées, Paris.**

June 9: "Munch and After or The Obstinacy of Painters." **Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam.**

June 9: "Vermeer." **Mauritshuis, The Hague.**



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LEISURE

MOVIE GUIDE

TROIS VIES ET UNE SEULE MORT
Directed by Raúl Ruiz. France.
It's a wonderful life, or two, and rough going on Marcello Mastroianni who plays a character beset by multiple-personality disorder in "Trois vies et une seule mort" (Three Lives and Only One Death). Raúl Ruiz and the screenwriter, Pascal Bonitzer, dipped into classic tales — a couple are by Hawthorne — and cooked up a cubist comedy about a man who walks out of one life and into the next. They couldn't have done it without Mastroianni, who walks through it all looking both befuddled and unfazed. First, he's a traveling salesman who has left home to live across the street, then a Sorbonne professor who becomes a beggar; he reappears as a mysterious butler, lost in a huge mansion. He has yet another life — doesn't that makes four? — as a businessman who has invented a far-flung family — wife, daughter, mistress — for tax purposes, only to find out that they are on their way to Paris. To add to his confusion, and to ours, his women speak in different accents: Brilliantly plotted, mined with devices and puns, the movie takes a while to build, but it hits

Industrial Light and Magic
The star monster of Rob Cohen's "Dragonheart."

home, or at some split-level of the modern unconscious, where we live.
(Joan Dupont, IHT)

DRAGONHEART
Directed by Rob Cohen. U.S.
The makers of "Dragonheart," a mythic yarn about a talking dragon, a dragon slayer and dire times in 10th-century England, have spared no effort creating their star monster. Another product from Industrial Light and Magic, this fire-breathing, soaring creature is a technical wonder to behold. But they've skimped on everything else. The script douses the movie's fiery potential and director Rob Cohen soaks all remaining embers with his cheap, made-for-TV direction. There's undeniable pleasure in watching the dragon swoop, snort and speak with a Scottish accent. ("I'm tired of lurrrking in holes and shhhkulking in darknesssh," complains Draco.) But most of the time, this movie is the wrong kind of draggin'. The battle scenes, with extras in cheap chain mail or peasant tatters, resemble outtakes from "Monty Python and the Holy Grail." And Pete Postlethwaite is simply irritating as a storytelling monk who follows the knight Bowen around, rapturously recounting the knight's life story.
(Desson Howe, WP)

ORIGINAL GANGSTAS
Directed by Larry Cohen. U.S.
"Original Gangstas" is so faithful to the funky spirit of the blaxploitation films of the '70s that it almost seems as if it were a long-lost work from that period. Directed by blaxploitation auteur Larry Cohen ("Black Caesar") and starring Fred Williamson, Jim Brown, Richard Roundtree and Pam Grier, the movie has a familiar low-budget, gritty, guerrilla style. It has the same pop-driven, inner-city energy, the same simplicity of purpose. That purpose is to entertain, and on that score "Original Gangstas" delivers impressively. There is nothing fancy or pretentious going on here. The stars work through their usual numbers, building on the personas they built in the past. But it's still a hoot to see them do their stuff, even if they are a bit thicker and a step slower than before.
(Hal Hinson, WP)

Sophie Dutertre

GOOD TRAVEL DEALS

AIRLINES		
AIR UK	Europe	Round-trip excursion fares of £59 ($90) from London-Stansted to Paris, £69 to Amsterdam, £89 to Zurich, £109 to Madrid and £139 to Milan. Book by June 8 for travel through June/July.
EL AL	France to Israel	Round-trip excursion ticket from Paris or Marseille to Tel Aviv or Jerusalem with four nights in a four-star hotel with breakfast, plus four-day car rental (unlimited mileage; insurance is extra), costs 2,540 French francs per person (about $500) for a couple sharing. Until June 26.
SOUTHWEST AIRLINES	United States	"Take Along Fares" allow you to take along up to three companions on any nonstop Southwest flight for an extra $50 each per round trip. You must pay the full unrestricted fare for the first ticket, stay at least one night and buy tickets seven days in advance, but no later than June 12 for travel until Sept. 5.
SWISSAIR/ AUSTRIAN AIRLINES	Europe	Qualiflyer members earn triple miles between Zurich or Geneva and Copenhagen. Until Aug. 31.
UNITED AIRLINES	Britain to United States	United Vacations Fly-Drive packages from £319 ($480) include round-trip scheduled flights from Heathrow to most major cities and holiday areas and one-week car rental (with upgrade). Until Aug. 30
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HYATT	California	California Getaway weekend rates at 17 properties from $105 per night include Continental breakfast for two; coffee in room; free local calls and late checkout. Friday and Saturday nights only. Until June 16.
SOFITEL	Europe	Summer Sale guaranteed dollar rates of $119, $139 or $159 per room, double or single, depending on location, at 51 participating hotels in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain and Switzerland, saving up to 50 percent off rack rates and including buffet breakfast and VAT. From June 28 to Sept. 1.

Although the IHT carefully checks these offers, please be forewarned that some travel agents may be unaware of them, or unable to book them.

Time Out at Olympics: Atlanta's Home-Style Restaurants

By Rick Bragg
New York Times Service

ATLANTA — The biscuits, Lord, the biscuits. Down here they call them cathead biscuits, because they are about the size of a kitten's head, crisp on the outside, fluffy on the inside, slathered with muscadine jelly and white butter, or opened up and smothered in white milk gravy.

Then there is the chicken, expertly patted with white flour, dusted with salt, then fried in an honest iron skillet that has been blackened and seasoned over a generation. It is served with pole beans, green beans, for the ignorant — that have been slow-cooked with a drop or two of bacon grease, and mashed potatoes rich with milk and butter, and fried okra, and scraped corn.

Once, years ago, there were several sit-down home-style cafés and barbecue restaurants in Atlanta that served traditional Southern food of good style and quality. But in Atlanta's headlong rush to bulldoze its past and become an international city, they have mostly disappeared.

There remain six or seven places — no more — that serve genuine, traditional Southern barbecue and home-style meals. You can cruise the endless suburbs looking for others, but, considering the expected impossible gridlock of Olympic traffic this summer, you may never be seen or heard from again. For those who want the real deal, here is what Atlanta has:

THE COLONNADE *1879 Cheshire Bridge Road, 874-5642*

One diner, meaning no disrespect at all, called it "hospital food done right." No one will leave the Colonnade saying the food is the best, but they will leave comfortably, happily full. Established in 1927, it will disappoint anyone who believes Southern restaurants should come with washboards, plow handles and other ridiculous artifacts on the walls. It is a simple, wide-open dining room, with an adjoining bar.

Diners come for the excellent fried chicken, or the fork-tender pork loin, or crisp catfish. The portions are big, the vegetables are fresh. There is squash casserole, turnip greens, fried okra. The mashed potatoes are a little bland, but probably only because so many of the patrons have to watch their sodium.

You can eat well here for less than $10.

THELMA'S KITCHEN *764 Marietta Street, N.W., 688-5855*

Thelma's, named for the owner, Thelma Grundy, used to be within walking distance of the downtown city center, and everyone from sanitation workers to big-shot lawyers went there. But the Olympic Park loomed, and they moved Thelma's out, way out, west of downtown. With pre-Olympic traffic, it takes about 30 minutes to get now from downtown (with Olympic traffic, it should be no more than a day trip). But people still come, to peer into the steam table and point to the buttery mashed potatoes — Grundy is not afraid of the salt shaker — and the macaroni and cheese, and sweet potato souffle, and savory collard greens, and the chicken, better than the Colonnade's only because it is seasoned better.

You can eat like a hog here and not spend $8. The only bad thing is the cornbread, which seems to have no taste at all.

THE VARSITY *61 North Avenue, 881-1706*

Huge and greasy and wonderful, the Varsity is an assembly line for chili dogs and cheeseburgers and onion rings and real, fresh french fries. It has been feeding Atlantans for more than half a century, and people who will let you spit on the state flag will punch you in the eye if you say bad things about the Varsity. The best thing in the place is the frosted orange frozen drink. For $6.50, you can eat enough to wish you were dead.

HAROLD'S BARBECUE *171 McDonough Boulevard, 627-9268*

Some days you hit Harold's just right. The cracklin' cornbread is hot, steaming, the sliced roast pig is warm and tender (ask for a mix of tender inside and crisp, slightly burned outside meat), the Brunswick stew is too hot to touch to your lips and the cole slaw is fresh, delicious. All of this comes to about $8.

Then there are the days when the cornbread is a cold slab and the pork is a little dry and the Brunswick stew is lukewarm and the slaw is, well, it has a suspicious whang. Harold's is a genuine joint, short on decor, hard to find and it closes early because of crime in the neighborhood. But even when Harold's has an off day it beats no barbecue at all.

ALECK'S BARBECUE HEAVEN *783 Martin Luther King Drive, N.W., 525-2062*

There are two kinds of barbecue in the South. There is white barbecue, like Harold's, which is a little blander, where you sprinkle your own sauce on the chopped or sliced shoulder meat. Then there is black barbecue, like Aleck's, just southwest of downtown, where the slightly fatty ribs are covered in their secret recipe sauce. It is a point of pride that, even when the rib bones are clean, at Aleck's tumbledown joint, people use bread or even their fingers to get the last of the sauce. It has been that way since 1942.

The side items are more ambitious than the usual fries and slaw. There are collards, baked beans and pinto beans. Aleck's also serves a dripping pork sandwich. A rib plate, complete with sides and drink, goes for about $7.

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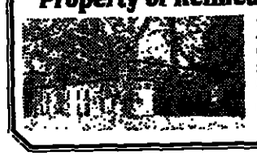

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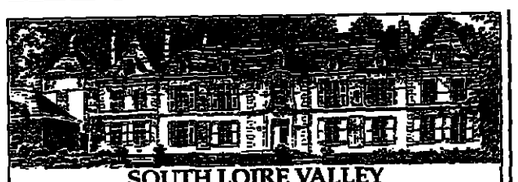

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newly renovated. 15 rooms (5 bath rooms), central heating and most rooms with antique fireplaces. Two modern kitchens, various elegant reception rooms. All rooms furnished with antiques from the 18th and 19th centuries.
Large side buildings including wine cellar, horse stables and caretakers house. Park of 4 ha within walls.
The estate includes a nearby winery with separate buildings for housing, offices and production facilities; more than 25 ha of vineyards producing 200,000 bottles of high class white wine.
Separate country auberge with restaurant, art gallery, conference rooms and five guest rooms, all fully furnished and operating.
The estate further includes a separate horse breeding farm (30 horses) with renovated buildings for housing and stables. Beautiful setting. Altogether more than 100 ha of land including grazing land and forests for hunting.
Interested parties send their application including a bank confirmation of a financial capacity of at least USD 5 million to the Herald Tribune... Box 467, IHT Neuilly Cedex 92521 France

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This private estate, set in nearly 14 acres of magnificent walled parks and gardens, completely and tastefully renovated by Americans in 1987, features 8 bedrooms and 7.5 bathrooms, two salons, office, dining room, library and modern kitchen. 12,500 sq.ft. in all plus several outbuildings. Continuously lived in since 1750 and filled with lovely antiques and art. Perfect for entertaining friends and family, B&B, Corporate Headquarters, Corporate Retreat or all of the above. Only two hours from Paris by train. MUST SEE. US$2.1 Million Dollars completely furnished.
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Fax owner (33) 47 95 43 43
or e-mail MY CHATEAU@AOL.COM

WRITER'S HAVEN NEAR SAUMUR, renovated 19th cent. cottage 136 sq.m., 5,000 sq.m. grounds, 36 sq.m.living, 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths. Garage F800,000 Paris Tel/Fax 1-45 65 04 98

INDRE & LOIRE, 5KM TOURS, at CHAMBRAY les TOURS, prestigious property in wooded park of 11,000 sq.m., residential area. 365 sq.m. living space, 9 rooms. 155 sq.m outbuildings. FF3.2 million. tel owner (33) 47 28 25 41

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Tel: 44 171 225 0359
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FRANCE

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190, avenue de l'Orangeraie
Starting Price: FF 1,000,000 unoccupied
Contact Me Pierre CHEVROT, lawyer in Paris 8, 8 rue Tronchet. Tel.: (1) 47.42.31.15 - Me Patrice FRECHOU, authorized agent in Paris 6, 16 rue Séguier. Tel.: (1) 46.33.54.17
Visits June 10 and 18, 1996 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and June 15, 1996 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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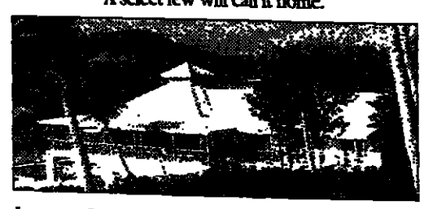

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WEST INDIES

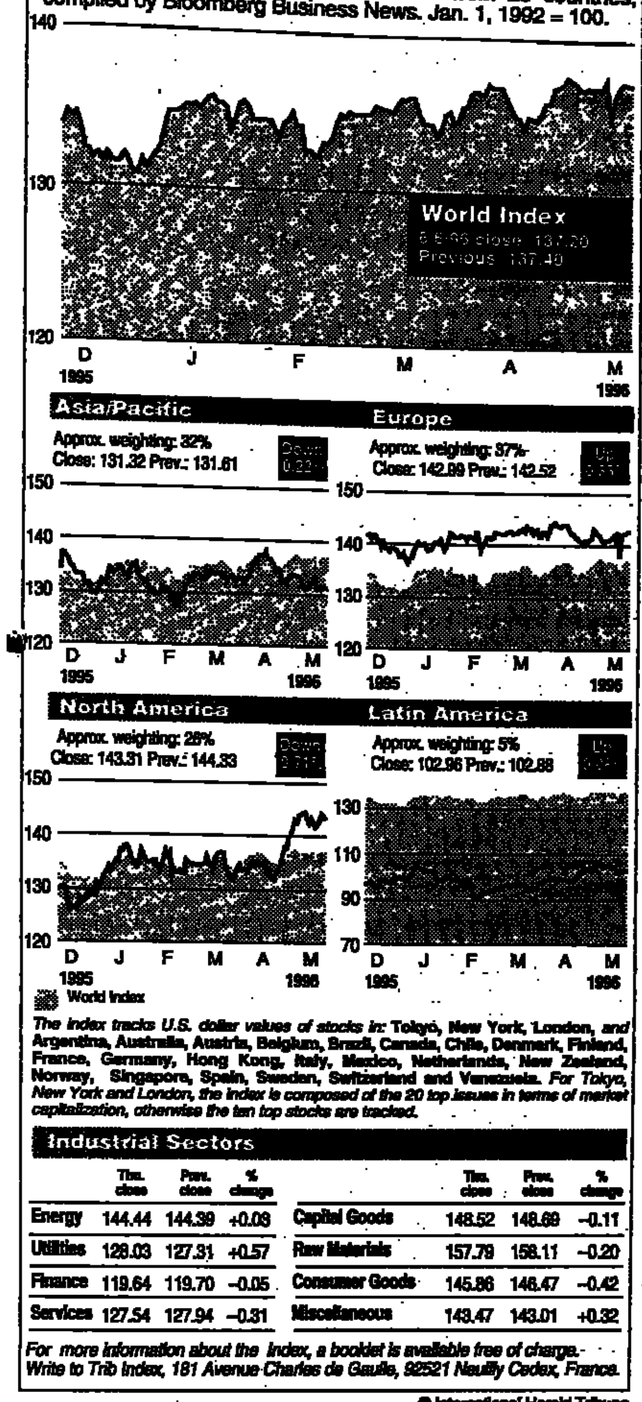
Herald Tribune INTERNATIONAL

BUSINESS / FINANCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1996

THE TRIB INDEX: 137.20

International Herald Tribune World Stock Index ©, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in: Tokyo, New York, London, and Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela. For Tokyo, New York and London, the index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the ten top stocks are tracked.

Industrial Sectors

	Thu. close	Prev. close	% change		Thu. close	Prev. close	% change
Energy	144.44	144.39	+0.03	Capital Goods	148.52	148.69	-0.11
Utilities	128.03	127.31	+0.57	Raw Materials	157.79	158.11	-0.20
Finance	119.64	119.70	-0.05	Consumer Goods	145.86	146.47	-0.42
Services	127.54	127.94	-0.31	Miscellaneous	143.47	143.01	+0.32

For more information about the Index, a booklet is available free of charge. Write to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France.

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Europe's Digital-TV Drama

Murdoch Exit Throws Development in Doubt

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The official withdrawal Thursday of Rupert Murdoch's British Sky Broadcasting Group PLC from the grand alliance of some of Europe's leading media groups has confirmed fears of a long and costly struggle to bring digital television into European homes.

At the same time it has thrown into sharp relief the problems inherent in the struggle by a series of national powerhouses to transform themselves into truly European companies. Adding to the task, say analysts, is that none possesses the wherewithal to make that leap on its own.

[Manfred Harnischfeger, a spokesman for Bertelsmann AG, confirmed Thursday that Mr. Murdoch had written to say that he did not intend to extend his participation in the project, which also includes Canal Plus SA of France, Agence France-Presse reported from Paris.]

At the epicenter of the latest media quake lies the battle to dominate Germany, Europe's richest market. There, BSkyB, Bertelsmann and Canal Plus had linked in a face-off with Kirch Group in the contest to dominate the coming era of digital television. The withdrawal of BSkyB and the possibility that it will form a third group to contest leadership in Germany have disquieted the industry and investors alike.

Those concerns of the moment come on top of deep-seated worries over the huge cost of launching digital services coupled with lingering uncertainties as to just how interested Germans or anyone else will be in paying for it. Premiere, Germany's only pay television station, is still posting losses nearly five years after it started and a year after its owners — Bertelsmann and Kirch among them — forecast it would break even.

Much will depend on what digital broadcasters can come up with in the way of content to prove that theirs is a mousetrap so superior that subscribers should pull themselves away from their familiar channels or the Internet and pay the cash for their subscriptions. That battle alone will be tough enough, analysts say.

Compounding the difficulty is the prospect of one, two or even three players in major markets battling each other to lock up the sporting events, movies, and whatever else may turn viewers' heads. That could drive up the cost of content and push out further the point at which digital TV turns into profit.

"Competition doesn't work in this market," said a London media analyst. "In this market competition is akin to mutually assured destruction."

Along with the explosion in digital television networks destined for European homes in the next year will come a welter of competing technologies.

In Germany, for instance, the set-top decoder boxes used by Kirch to feed its signals onto its subscribers' screens will be incompatible with those used by the Bertelsmann group.

Germans thus will not only face a decision as to which package of programming they prefer but will also have to place their bets on which technology will ultimately prevail. That is because some

See TV, Page 19

OPEC's Choice: Cut Prices or Output

By Youssef M. Ibrahim
New York Times Service

VIENNA — The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries appeared paralyzed Thursday, stuck between a certainty of lower oil prices if it failed to reduce oil production by its 11 members and the reluctance of any of its members to abandon their current market share.

As a result, OPEC was headed for an inconclusive resolution that would authorize Iraq to pump some 800,000 barrels a day of oil but otherwise leave its house in disorder.

Saudi Arabia and Venezuela, two of the world's biggest oil producers, made it clear they would not budge from their current production levels of 8.4 million barrels a day and nearly 3 million barrels a day, respectively.

Both countries dismissed demands from other OPEC members to roll back production in order to make room for the incoming Iraqi oil, which has been made possible by a United Nations resolution in May that opened the gate for Iraqi oil exports to resume soon.

Saudi officials argued time was not pressing. They said a final decision permitting the flow of Iraqi oil may take as long as two months.

Moreover, they said, increased production from oil producers outside the group — such as Norway, Britain, Oman, Yemen and others — may not materialize, thus giving OPEC a reprieve from tough production cuts that will include much haggling over how much each producer can pump.

But the Saudi arguments seemed to underlined a new hard-line attitude by the world's biggest oil producer.

The Saudis are signaling that the massive increase of 3 million barrels a day they added to their exports in 1990 to replace Iraqi oil output after Baghdad fell under UN sanctions, is now regarded as a permanent new share for the Arab kingdom.

That means that even as Iraq slowly works its way up to its old level of output, which topped 3 million barrels a day, Saudi Arabia will retain and, indeed, increase its output, officials said.

AT&T Will Sell Its Finance Unit For $2.2 Billion

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — AT&T Corp. said Friday it had agreed to sell its finance division to managers and other investors in a deal that valued the unit at $2.2 billion, in the latest step in AT&T's breakup.

The purchase price of $45 a share was $4 above AT&T Capital's close on Wednesday. The company's stock rose $3, to $44, in late trading on the New York Stock Exchange. AT&T shares rose 25 cents, to $62.25.

The buyers include AT&T Capital managers and GRS Holding Co., which owns a rail-leasing company in Britain, and Babcock & Brown Inc., a San Francisco-based financing company.

"The merger agreement for AT&T Capital achieves another significant milestone in our strategic restructuring," said Robert E. Allen, chairman.

AT&T Capital provides financing to more than 500,000 small and large businesses to pay for sophisticated communication systems, generally those built by AT&T or its recent spin-off, Lucent Technologies Inc.

AT&T Capital's chief executive officer, Tom Wajnert, is part of the team acquiring the unit and will remain in charge.

The company will continue to be led by AT&T Capital's current management, with no significant changes in business strategies or operations planned.

The transaction, which is subject to regulatory approval, is expected to be completed in September.

Since announcing a voluntary corporate breakup last September, AT&T has sold 17.6 percent of its systems and technology unit, Lucent Technologies, to the public.

It plans to spin off the rest of Lucent and its computer manufacturing operation, NCR Corp., to AT&T holders this year.

The sale also ends AT&T's plan to spin off the leasing unit in an initial public offering as part of its split into three public companies.

AT&T "gets more proceeds this way than under an IPO," said Barry Sine, an analyst at SBC Warburg Inc., "and it's more important that they completed another milestone in the process, as this one seemed to have dragged out."

What's left of AT&T will include the long-distance telephone company, which has been seeking to break into local telephone markets.

AT&T Capital was founded in 1985 to finance sales of AT&T equipment and become a major provider of vendor financing programs to manufacturers, including AT&T, Lucent Technologies and NCR.

Financing for the consortium is being arranged by Nomura International PLC. *(AP, Bloomberg)*

Phone Firms Unveil Faster Net Access

By Paul Floren
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Technology advances that would greatly speed access to the Internet over conventional copper phone lines were announced this week by AT&T Corp. and LM Ericsson AB.

AT&T's Paradyne unit said its technology could reduce the time it takes to view a page on the World Wide Web portion of the Internet to less than one second from six minutes for a user with a conventional 14.4 kilobyte-per-second modem.

Ericsson, which is further along in developing working modems, said its version would be 36 times as fast as a 14.4-baud modem.

The technology underlying both companies' plans splits a standard phone line into two channels: a low-frequency section, which carries voice communications, and a high-frequency area, which carries data at a rate of at least 500 baud.

Ericsson said it expected to begin high-volume production of its modems late this year. Its system requires the phone company and each computer user to have Cobra hardware, at a cost of $500 to $600 per user.

If widely adopted, the technology would allow speedy Internet access to a wider number of users than competing cable modems. Hans-Erhard Reiter, an Ericsson executive, said, "There are 700 million standard lines in use in the world, but only 20 million to 30 million of the subscribers to cable networks can use cable modems."

Analysts cautioned that the standards would have to be adopted by a large number of phone companies.

Marc Ferranti, the Paris bureau chief for the IDG News Service, said the key question was whether telephone companies would be willing to install the hardware.

Andrew Till, a research analyst with Dataquest Inc. in London, said the development might be more suited to "traditional wide-area networks but not for the average Internet user."

WALL STREET WATCH

A Peril of the Internet: Anyone Can Hawk a Stock

By Greg Miller and Tom Petruno
Los Angeles Times Service

There is a new force at work in stock markets, particularly in America — one that is powerful, amorphous and often beyond regulators' control.

It is the Internet, and last month it helped propel the market value of a little-known company called Comparator Systems Corp. from about $36 million to more than $1 billion in just three days.

During a trading frenzy that set records on the Nasdaq stock market, computer "chat rooms," bulletin boards and discussion groups were littered with hundreds of electronic postings about Comparator, an unprofitable California-based company that makes fingerprint identification systems. "Everyone who hasn't gotten in on this stock get in now," said one newsgroup posting early on May 3, the first record day of trading. "Volume is approx. 25 million ... share price jumped from 6 cents to 12 cents today!!! Don't miss the boat!!!"

Few did, as more than 449 million shares changed hands over the next three days, until nervous regulators halted trading and launched investigations that culminated last week in a lawsuit being filed against the company by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

But the Comparator postings represent only a small fraction of the thousands of messages about stocks that appear every day on on-line services and the Internet, a worldwide network of computers that many predict will someday be a stock market. The power of the Internet to reach millions of people — and give each of them an equal voice — is both promising and problematic to securities regulators.

The Net gives investors access to information that can help them make wiser decisions, and it affords small companies an opportunity to raise capital from investors who could not easily be reached by other means.

But it also gives the unscrupulous a new medium for spreading misinformation and a vast supply of targets for their fraudulent schemes.

That dichotomy puts stock market officials in the position of having to both nurture the new technology and figure out a way to keep from being overrun by it.

"This is technology getting ahead of regulators," said David Weisman, director of money and technology at Forrester Research.

"There are only a few times in history when something with this kind of impact comes along."

Even top stock market officials acknowledge that technology is reshaping their role in fundamental ways. "We need to think about the whole regulatory structure," said Steven Wallman, an SEC commissioner.

For now, regulators have their hands full just sorting through the avalanche of on-line postings to hunt for cases of fraud and illegal touting. While most on-line

See NET, Page 19

A Boom in Small Shares Lures Investors to a High-Risk Zone

Los Angeles Times Service

You can easily buy stock in giants such as Microsoft Corp. or Anheuser-Busch Cos. — so why not in a neighbor's fledgling software company or a local microbrewery? Or, for that matter, why not in the corner dry cleaners?

As Wall Street's bull market surges ahead, small-company stocks have emerged as the new stars.

The American public's hunger for them is so intense that a record number of companies — most of them relatively young — have been able to "go public" in 1996, selling shares to investors for the first time.

Now U.S. federal and state regulators, embracing the Republican Congress's professed love of small businesses, are rushing to make it simpler for even the tiniest companies to solicit investors.

But even those who support liberalizing the stock-offering rules for small companies worry that the idea will have disastrous consequences if too many individual investors clamor to buy shares of untested companies — perhaps over the burgeoning Internet — only to see those stocks collapse in the next big market downturn.

"We're in the oxymoronic position of trying to peddle the most risky part of the market to the public," says Barry Guthary, the director of securities regulation for Massachusetts.

Others, however, contend that such worries are overblown, that individual investors are unlikely to sink much of their savings into such stocks and that whatever the risks, the higher long-run cost to the U.S. economy would come from hindering legitimate entrepreneurs from getting the capital that they require.

"If we just make these stocks unavailable, then we're for sure protecting the public" from potential loss, said Debra Bortner, securities administrator for the state of Washington. "But I don't think we can do that anymore. We live in an age where small businesses are creating a lot of jobs" and thus feel that they have a greater right to funding, she said.

Among the efforts to ease restrictions, eight states in the American West recently

See SMALL, Page 19

Hilton Puts Its Bets on Bally And Will Buy It for $3 Billion

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Hilton Hotels Corp. agreed Thursday to buy Bally Entertainment Corp. for about $3 billion in stock and assumed debt, a bold stroke that would make the hotelier a major player in the two U.S. gambling centers of Atlantic City, New Jersey, and Las Vegas.

The deal, which still requires approval by shareholders and gambling regulators, was announced after meetings of the directors of both companies. The companies said final approval was expected by year-end.

The deal came four months after Hilton named Stephen F. Bollenbach, a former Walt Disney Co. chief financial officer with long experience in hotels and casinos, as its chief executive and amid reports that Bally had been seeking a takeover partner.

ITT Corp., owner of the Caesars World hotel and casino in Atlantic City, also had been in talks with Bally, which owns nearby property blocking a planned expansion.

Hilton already owns 10 casinos worldwide and will gain five more from Bally, including Park Place and The Grand in Atlantic City.

The new company would be the world's largest casino gaming company, controlling 15 casinos with nearly 800,000 square feet (74,350 square meters) of gambling space, 18,000 hotel rooms in its gambling facilities and more than 100,000 hotel rooms in total.

Bally's shares rose $1.50, to $27.625, in New York trading. Hilton fell 75 cents, to $113.75. *(AP, AFX, NYT, Bloomberg)*

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates

June 6

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.Fl	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.711	2.6385	1.1193	0.3302	0.1166*	—	5.445*	1.2628	1.5601*	1.254	1.3225*
Brussels	31.465	48.505	20.5655	6.064	2.0251*	18.375	—	25.125	0.2881	23.84	24.2975*
Frankfurt	1.5318	2.3685	—	0.2953	0.9908*	0.8934	4.8633*	1.2183	1.408*	1.1186	1.1818*
London (a)	1.5495	—	2.3598	8.0088	2,389.23	2.6411	48.5315	1.9385	168.275	2.1089	199.59
Madrid	129.158	199.485	84.638	24.958	8.356*	75.634	4.1150	102.806	118.472*	94.65	—
Milan	1,547.90	2,382.60	1,011.30	298.38	—	902.80	49.22	1,233.60	14.163	1,132.50	11.96
New York (b)	—	1.5439a	1.529	5.18	1,549.00	1.7117	31.47	1.2583	109.205	1.3641	128.45
Paris	5.175	7.993	3.3912	—	0.3348*	3.0001	0.1649	4.1285	4.7489*	3.7904	4.8095*
Tokyo	109.25	169.10	71.36	21.07	0.708	63.75	3.4716	86.91	—	79.98	0.8623
Toronto	1.3642	2.1147	0.8914	0.2632	0.0882*	0.7967	0.4335*	1.0827	1.249*	—	1.055*
Zurich	1.2539	1.936	0.8212	0.2422	0.0801*	0.7339	3.9926*	—	1.1451*	0.919	0.9745*
1 ECU	1.2526	0.8116	1.9129	6.487	1,937.61	2.1409	39.2409	1.5719	134.659	1.7114	161.86
1 SDR	1.4496	0.9348	2.2055	N.Q.	N.Q.	2.4696	45.296	1.8053	156.503	1.9496	185.685

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, New York, Paris and Zurich, fixings in other centers; and Toronto rates at 3 p.m.
*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	0.9988	Greek drac.	240.93	Mex. peso	7.45	S. Afr. rand	4.37
Australian $	1.2563	Hong Kong $	7.738	N. Zealand $	1.4979	S. Kor. won	786.70
Austrian sch.	10.73	Hung. forint	152.37	Norw. krone	6.5315	Swed. krona	6.7299
Brazil real	1.018	Indian rupee	34.84	Phil. peso	26.18	Taiwan $	27.68
Chinese yuan	8.3439	Indo. rupiah	2333.13	Polish zloty	2.70	Thai baht	25.35
Czech koruna	27.85	Irish £	0.6325	Port. escudo	157.56	Turkish lira	78250.0
Danish krone	5.8905	Israeli shek.	3.2785	Russ ruble	5042.50	UAE dirham	3.671
Egypt. pound	3.3945	Kuw dinar	0.2995	Saudi riyal	3.7500	Venez. boliv.	471.00
Fin. markka	4.6895	Malay. ring.	2.4968	Sing. $	1.4083		

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.5439	1.5433	1.5429	Japanese yen	108.47	107.97	107.54
Canadian dollar	1.3643	1.3634	1.3625	Swiss franc	1.2505	1.2472	1.2441
Deutsche mark	1.5232	1.5202	1.5175				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Banque de France (Paris); Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR). Other data from Reuters and AP.

Eurocurrency Deposits

June 6

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5 5/16 - 5 7/16	3 1/8 - 3 1/4	2 1/16 - 2 3/16	5 3/4 - 5 7/8	3 3/4 - 3 7/8	1/2 - 5/8	4 1/16 - 4 3/16
3-month	5 7/16 - 5 1/2	3 3/16 - 3 5/16	2 1/2 - 2 5/8	5 13/16 - 5 15/16	3 13/16 - 3 15/16	9/16 - 11/16	4 3/16 - 4 5/16
6-month	5 5/8 - 5 3/4	3 3/16 - 3 5/16	2 1/2 - 2 5/8	5 15/16 - 6	3 7/8 - 4	9/16 - 11/16	4 1/16 - 4 3/16
1-year	5 15/16 - 6	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	2 9/16 - 2 11/16	6 1/8 - 6 1/4	3 15/16 - 4 1/16	13/16 - 15/16	4 3/8 - 4 1/2

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

	Close	Prev
United States		
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8 1/4	8 1/4
Federal funds	5 3/16	5 1/4
3-month CDs	4.97	4.98
CP 180 days direct	6.11	6.11
3 month Treasury bill	5.06	5.08
1-year Treasury bill	5.39	5.44
2-year Treasury bill	6.13	6.20
5-year Treasury note	6.50	6.59
7-year Treasury note	6.60	6.67
10-year Treasury note	6.74	6.80
30-year Treasury bond	6.90	6.95
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	4.78	4.78
Japan		
Discount rate	0.50	0.50
Call money	0.42	0.43
1-month interbank	0.53	0.56
3-month interbank	0.59	0.59
6-month interbank	0.69	0.69
10-year Govt bond	3.16	3.12
Germany		
Lombard rate	4.50	4.50
Call money	3.37	3.37
1-month interbank	3.40	3.40
3-month interbank	3.37	3.37
6-month interbank	3.37	3.37
10-year Bond	6.45	6.56
Britain		
Bank base rate	5 3/4	6.00
Call money	5 3/4	6 1/16
1-month interbank	5 13/16	6 1/16
3-month interbank	5 7/8	6 1/8
6-month interbank	5 15/16	6 1/4
10-year Gilt	7.98	8.05
France		
Intervention rate	3.60	3.70
Call money	3 3/4	3 3/4
1-month interbank	3 3/4	3 13/16
3-month interbank	3 3/4	3 13/16
6-month interbank	3 7/8	4.00
10-year OAT	6.52	6.52

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Commerzbank, Crédit Lyonnais.

Gold

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	386.65	385.65	-1.75
London	385.70	384.85	-2.80
New York	388.90	388.40	-0.40

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings; Zurich and New York opening and closing prices; New York Comex (Aug.)
Source: Reuters.

Study Shows U.S. Can Handle Money

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Good news America: You can afford your bad habits.

A study to be released Friday concludes that in spite of Americans' notorious preference for spending and consuming over saving and investing, the country will still outstrip its more virtuous rivals in the creation of new wealth.

The study concludes that in spite of saving less and investing less in new plants and equipment, the United States uses its capital far more efficiently than its leading rivals. U.S. physical capital ranks as the hardest working in the world, according to the study comparing capital productivity in Japan, Western Germany and the United States through 1993.

"The biggest surprise was how low capital productivity turned out to be in Japan and in Germany," said Bill Lewis, head of the Washington-based McKinsey Global Institute, which conducted the study.

The study found that capital productivity in Japan and Germany was two-thirds the level achieved in America.

Because more of the German economy is exposed to competitive pressures than that in Japan, Mr. Lewis said his team had anticipated a higher level of capital productivity. Instead, the study found that although Germany boasts an average 40 percent more plant capacity and equipment per worker hour than the United States, it squanders much of that investment by making less use of it. In the automobile industry, for example, the study found that shorter plant operating hours and more down time for expensive machines translated to capital that was only 65 percent as productive as it was at American and Japanese car plants.

The study also faulted German companies for overengineering and "gold-plating," or using equipment whose standards of precision, durability and reliability far exceeded what customers wanted or were willing to pay for.

The study said the combination of those factors held Germany's per capita gross domestic product 26 percent below that of the United States.

The study said Japan threw more capital and labor into the production of goods and services than either the United States or Germany.

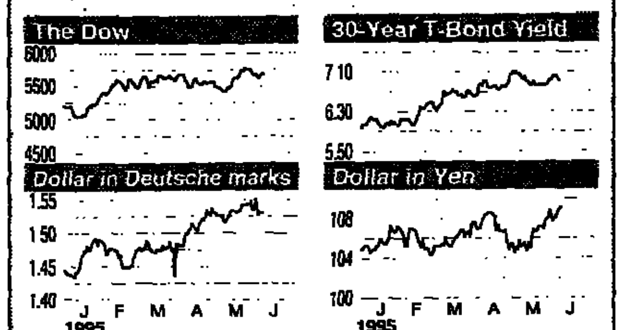
"The Japanese invest a lot of money and a lot of time and energy and get comparatively little back in return," the study concluded.

Japan leads the world in the production of automobiles, steel, machine tools and consumer electronics. But those industries, Mr. Lewis said, account for only half of the nation's industrial output, which in turn accounts for under a third of its total economy.

The study identified a surprising champion for U.S. success: Wall Street. Rather than condemning financial markets for fostering a fixation on short-term results at the expense of creating jobs for the long haul, the study lauds America's capital markets for setting high goals for corporations to meet. It found fault with Germany and Japan for failing to follow the American example.

Mr. Lewis noted that when a U.S. company struggled, the reaction of the financial markets was "rigorous and ruthless." Executives could be removed and funding lines severed in an economic system that brutalizes losers and lavishes praise on winners.

Investor's America



Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
NYSE	The Dow	5667.19	5697.48	-0.53
NYSE	S&P 500	678.44	672.56	+0.87
NYSE	S&P 100	654.21	649.06	+0.79
NYSE	Composite	361.10	363.38	-0.63
U.S.	Nasdaq Composite	1234.67	1249.48	-1.19
AMEX	Market Value	602.84	608.27	-0.89
Toronto	TSE Index	5158.37	5188.30	-0.58
São Paulo	Bovespa	Closed	55689.50	-
Mexico City	Bolsa	3271.94	3238.73	+1.03
Buenos Aires	Merval	600.44	580.66	+3.41
Santiago	IPSA General	5331.32	5330.05	+0.02
Caracas	Capital General	N.A.	4323.59	-

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters — International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

Time-Turner Deal Clears Hurdle

NEW YORK (AP) — U S West Inc.'s effort to block Time Warner Inc.'s $7.5 billion purchase of Turner Broadcasting System Inc. was rejected Thursday by a Delaware court, clearing a major hurdle to the deal's completion.

U S West, a phone company based in Englewood, Colorado, had argued that Time Warner's purchase of Turner would compete with its own cable-TV and programming venture with Time Warner. U S West said such competition violated the partnership agreement.

Time Warner and U S West have been partners since 1993, when the phone company paid $2.5 billion for a 25 percent stake in Time Warner Entertainment, a Time Warner unit that owns Warner Brothers studios, the HBO pay-TV service and cable television systems.

• **Carl C. Icahn** ended his partnership with Bennett R. LeBow, opting to push on his own for an immediate spin-off of **RJR Nabisco Holdings Corp.**'s Nabisco food unit after Mr. LeBow's attempt to replace the board failed.

• **Nabisco Holdings** bought the assets of **Lucky Enterprise Corp.**, Taiwan's largest cookie and cracker company, for an undisclosed sum.

• **Apple Computer Inc.** said Steven Capps, the software programmer who was one of the original designers of the Macintosh operating system, had resigned from the company.

• **National Semiconductor Corp.**'s fourth-quarter profit fell to $9.1 million from $81.2 million a year earlier as slow chip demand forced sales down 9 percent, to $612.4 million.

• **Warnaco Group Inc.** bid $502 million in stock for the swimwear maker **Authentic Fitness Corp.**, which it spun off in 1990 for $85 million.

• **Pullman Co.**, the bankrupt maker of automotive vibration-control components, will be sold to **Mayflower Corp.** of Britain for $226 million.

Bloomberg, Reuters, AP

Fed Officials Say They Didn't Call For Rates to Rise

By John M. Berry
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — When several Federal Reserve Board policymakers were quoted last week as hinting that short-term interest rates ought to be raised soon because the economy was growing so strongly, the reaction was swift and sure.

The bond market took a dive, and senior analysts at several Wall Street advisory firms told their traders that the uniformity of views in the reports was so striking that the statements undoubtedly had resulted from a coordinated effort. Central bank officials were signaling financial markets that higher rates were on the way, the analysts said.

Remarks about the economy, they say, were misinterpreted.

Now it turns out that there may be some flaws in that analysis: Several of the policymakers this week disavowed what they were reported to have said, and they added that their statements had not been coordinated. In interviews, several Fed governors said they expected U.S. economic growth to slow to a sustainable annual rate of around 2 percent in the second half of this year, with the risks about evenly balanced that growth will be somewhat higher or somewhat lower than that.

"We have an economy that is roughly balanced going forward," Janet Yellen, a Fed board member, said. Last year's excess inventories have been reduced without causing a slump, she said, and "there are no destabilizing forces likely to produce huge momentum on the upside or the downside."

"There are fewer risks than I have seen in a long time," she added.

A similar view was expressed by Thomas Hoenig, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. Mr. Hoenig said the economy might grow at a rate of 3 percent this quarter but said it would settle back to about 2 percent soon, partly as a result of recent increases in long-term interest rates that would affect house and car purchases.

"That will be a healthy outcome," he said. "Job growth should be able to absorb new entrants" to the labor force "but not get you into accelerating inflation."

Another Fed board member, Susan Phillips, echoed those comments. "I think we are set for a sustainable growth level," she said.

Ms. Phillips was one of the officials depicted last week as concerned that inflation could get worse. She did cite some "danger signals" such as higher energy and grain prices, but she also said there were reasons for "optimism" about inflation, including the relatively benign data on consumer-price increases and employers' efforts to increase productivity. Some reporters picked up only one side of what was intended to be a balanced talk, she said.

J. Alfred Broaddus, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, was supposed to have said the risk the economy would grow too quickly was greater than the risk it would falter. But in the interview, Mr. Broaddus said he actually regarded those risks as roughly in balance.

Job-Data Jitters Drag Down Stocks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stock prices fell Thursday as a drop in Treasury bond yields failed to offset worries about employment data for May due Friday.

Financial markets have plunged after recent employment reports, which reignited worries that rising payroll levels and wages would translate into rapid inflation by creating too much spending power and too much demand.

An inflationary tone in Friday's report would reinforce fears the Federal Reserve Board will fight inflation by raising short-term interest rates, slowing borrowing and spending.

"I'll bet we start to see slower growth by the second half of this year," said J.P. Weaver at First Union Corp.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 30.29 points, at 5,667.19, while losing issues outnumbered gaining ones by a 7-to-5 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

But bond traders figured that potential slower growth would ensure lower interest rates, and they sent prices higher. The price of the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond rose 18/32 point, to 88 23/32, sending the yield down to 6.90 percent from 6.95 percent Wednesday.

Lower commodity prices also encouraged buyers of Treasury bonds.

Vodafone's American depositary receipts were the most actively traded U.S. issue, falling 1⅛ to 37¾ after Britain said it would allow foreign companies to compete in its telecommunications market. That could erode Vodafone's market share.

Technology stocks fell on concern that slowing demand for semiconductors would dent profit.

Digital Equipment fell 3¼ to 46¼ after Goldman Sachs lowered its earnings estimate on the company. Intel fell 1⅝ to 75¼, Sun Microsystems lost 2¾ to 63⅞, and Altera fell 3⅛ to 42.

Micro Warehouse plunged 11⅞ to 22⅞. The computer retailer said it expected its second-quarter and full-year earnings to be below Wall Street estimates because of weak demand for Apple Computer's Macintosh line. Apple fell ⅞ to 24¼.

Kmart gained ¼ to 12 in active trading. The retailer reported a 4.5 percent increase in sales in May.

Citicorp fell 2 to 84⅝; Salomon Brothers said the stock had grown expensive and lowered its opinion on the stock.

Cineplex Odeon rose 7/16 to 2½. The company said it planned to spend $105 million over the next three years to expand and refurbish its movie-theater chain.

Presstek, a maker of computerized printing presses, plunged 31½ to 77½; the Cabot Market Letter said it was being investigated by the Securities and Exchange Commission because of its recommendations and investments in Presstek shares. *(AP, Bloomberg)*

Rate Cut in Britain Puts Pressure on Pound

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — The dollar rose against the pound Thursday after a surprise cut in British interest rates.

The Bank of England lowered bank lending rates by a quarter of a percentage point, to 5.75 percent, the fourth reduction since December, citing moderate economic growth and slowing inflation.

The pound closed at $1.5433, down from $1.5490 on Wednesday. The pound reached a five-month high against the dollar and a 15-month high against the Deutsche mark this week as investors banked on higher rates in Britain.

"The rate cut has knocked a little bit of the wind out of sterling's sails," said John McCarthy of ING Capital Markets.

The Bank of France also cut a key interest rate Thursday, which traders said hurt the dollar against the French franc. The U.S. currency fell to 5.1800 francs from 5.1860 francs.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The dollar fell to 1.5290 DM from 1.5305 DM on Wednesday, but it rose to 109.205 yen from 109.045 yen. Traders said dollar trading was subdued against the yen and Deutsche mark in anticipation of two key economic reports due Friday: Japan's quarterly survey of business sentiment and U.S. May jobless figures.

The Japanese report, called the *tankan*, is expected to show slower growth for manufacturers. That would suggest the economy is still too weak to prompt a rise in interest rates, and could benefit the dollar, traders said.

Economists forecast that the U.S. economy added 153,000 nonfarm jobs in May, after an increase of 2,000 in April. But a smaller gain, of 100,000 to 110,000 jobs, could bolster the dollar, said Peter Wadkins, manager of interbank currency sales at Standard Chartered Bank.

The dollar also fetched 1.2583 Swiss francs, up from 1.2565 francs. Trading volume was light, with some European markets closed for a holiday. *(Bloomberg, AFX)*

AMEX

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close
The top 300 most-active shares, up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
[illegible]					

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

June 6, 1996

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	120.60	120.20	120.50	-0.20	4,961
Nov 96	117.20	117.00	117.10	-0.05	1,682
Jan 97	115.20	114.80	115.10	-0.10	3,822
Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 1,621					
Wed's open int 21,173 up 144					
Dec 97	120.88	120.52	120.80	+0.28	10,947
Mar 97	N.T.	N.T.	120.68	+0.28	386
Est. volume: 181,897. Open Int.: 192,503 up 86.					

Grains; Livestock; Food; Metals; Financial; Industrials — [illegible]

HEATING OIL (NMER)
42,000 gal - cents per gal

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Jul 96	51.20	49.90	50.90	+0.05	24,269
Aug 96	51.60	50.40	51.40	+0.30	16,060
Sep 96	52.00	51.00	51.75	-0.20	9,225
Oct 96	52.60	51.70	52.60	+0.45	5,732
Nov 96	53.20	52.30	53.20	+0.50	6,343
Dec 96	53.65	52.70	53.65	+0.40	18,016
[illegible]					

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE)
ITL 200 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep96	115.70	115.41	115.68	+0.39	53,363
Dec96	N.T.	N.T.	115.08	+0.39	0
[illegible]					

Stock Indexes — [illegible]

Commodity Indexes — [illegible]

Spot Commodities — [illegible]

WOULDN'T YOU RATHER BE WORKING ON YOUR TAN?

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Indexes; Dow Jones; Standard & Poors; NYSE; Nasdaq; AMEX; Dow Jones Bond; Most Actives; Trading Activity; Market Sales; Dividends; Stock Split; Reverse Stock Split; Increased — [illegible]

Stock Tables Explained

[illegible]

EUROPE

Surprise Rate Cuts Are Unveiled in U.K., Denmark and France

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Britain, France and Denmark announced unexpected interest-rate reductions Thursday, with the British move widely seen as a politically motivated attempt to gain favor with voters.

The Bank of England cut its minimum lending rate a quarter of a point, to 5.75 percent, citing moderate economic growth and slowing inflation. It was its fourth rate cut since December.

France also made a surprise cut, trimming its intervention rate to 3.60 percent from 3.70 percent, while Denmark reduced its repurchase rate to 3.70 percent from 3.80 percent.

Analysts said the British cut, which led commercial banks to trim the rates they charged on loans, said more about the Conservative Party government's concerns about staying in power than about the state of the economy. The government, which is trailing the Labor Party in polls, must call an election by next May.

"The latest cut has increased suspicions that it was mainly politically motivated," said Ciaran Barr, an economist at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. "It is difficult to believe that the Bank of England governor will have sanctioned a rate cut."

The chancellor of the Exchequer, Kenneth Clarke, sets interest-rate policy in consultation with the governor of the Bank of England, Eddie George. The two held their regular monthly meeting Wednesday, but many investors expected rates to be left unchanged.

The government is expected to try to speed economic growth from the current 2 percent to improve the Conservative Party's low standing in opinion polls.

"I can't see any economic justification for cutting rates," said Richard Jeffrey, group economist at Charterhouse Securities.

The Bank of England had no comment, but it warned in mid-May against the "policy mistake" of easing the monetary stance too much.

According to Marian Bell, senior economist at the Royal Bank of Scotland, the move will move inflation up to 3.25 percent in 1997 and 3.5 percent in 1998.

"That doesn't sound like much but it's not good compared to our partners," she said. "The only way we're doing well is on a historical basis, but so is much of the world."

Some groups that might have been expected to welcome a rate cut offered lukewarm responses.

Tom Muir, director of economic affairs for the British Retail Consortium, described the rate cut as a surprise and said, "It is coming at a time when recently sales figures have been picking up and when a number of other factors should be helping the economy."

The Confederation of British Industry said Mr. Clarke had taken rates as low as he could.

"It has gone far enough," Kate Barker, the CBI's chief economic adviser, said.

Describing the government's rate cut as a "small psychological signal," Ms. Barker said she doubted the move would have any significant effect on consumer spending.

(Bloomberg, Reuters, AP)

Boots Profit Eroded by Sale of Unit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Boots PLC said Thursday its pretax profit fell 6.1 percent, to £493.5 million ($764.4 million), in the year ended March 31 as gains in its pharmacy division failed to offset effects of the sale of a drug manufacturing unit.

Boots sold its drug-making business to BASF AG of Germany in March 1995 for £840 million to focus on its retailing operations.

Boots shares closed 2 pence higher, at 608.

Boots said sales rose 5.8 percent, to £4.01 billion, and it raised its dividend 8.8 percent, to 18.5 pence a share.

Same-store sales at Boots the Chemist, which operates 1,226 stores in Britain, rose 4.4 percent during the year, and the company predicted further strength this year.

"There are growing signs of a recovery in consumer confidence," Boots's chairman Michael Angus, said.

"This is being reflected in spending within our stores so far this year."

Boots officials said a share-repurchase program was under consideration to give cash back to shareholders. But the company said it might also use available cash for other purposes, such as expansion of its international units.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

Saab Is Banking On Cash Injection

New Links Forged With GM

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

STOCKHOLM — The co-owners of Saab Automobile AB are negotiating financing for the unprofitable automaker and expect an agreement within two weeks, a company spokesman said Thursday.

Investor AB of Sweden and General Motors Corp. of the United States could know by next week how much cash they will have, Olle Axelsson, a Saab Auto spokesman, said.

"They are still talking with the banks," Mr. Axelsson said. "We'll get an official statement in the next two weeks."

Since GM bought half of Saab in 1990 from Investor AB, the two owners have spent more than $1 billion supporting the Swedish carmaker. Saab plans to use the funds to expand its product range in hope of stimulating sales.

Next spring, Saab will introduce a third car model to add to its 9000 and 900 series. Within a few years, the carmaker, long known for its luxury/sporty look, will also make a station wagon.

Between the introduction of next year's new top model and the station wagon, "a number of other versions of the new model and existing models will appear," Mr. Axelsson said.

At the beginning of the next century, the 900 series will be succeeded by a model smaller than the 900 series. To sell the new cars, Saab will double its usual investment in marketing and sales in the next five years, to 20 percent of sales, the company said. Saab had sales in 1995 of 20 billion kronor ($2.97 billion).

Saab Cars USA said it would also get help with its marketing and sales in the United States, Saab's largest market, from GM's Saturn division.

The cooperation will involve a sharing of experience and knowledge but not of showrooms.

Saab's U.S. division is also getting a new president and chief executive, Joel K. Manby, a regional executive for Saturn, whose appointment was announced Thursday.

In addition, Saab is adopting Saturn's sales and service programs, which will begin in the U.S. market. "If it is successful, it will be taken to Saab's other markets," Mr. Axelsson said.

Saturn's president, Don Hudler, also will join Saab's board.

Saab's plan to raise sales volume 50 percent, to 150,000 cars, in the next five years by using more models will cost Saab some profitability in that period.

"This means that the company's earnings will be at about the zero level for the next five years," Keith Butler-Wheelhouse, chief executive of Saab Autos, said in an interview with the Swedish daily Dagens Nyheter. "But after that we will be a sound business."

Since GM bought half of the carmaker, Saab has had only two profitable years despite the 8 billion kronor the owners have poured in. Saab's first annual pretax profit came in 1994, when it made 702 million kronor. That fell 79 percent last year, to 148 million kronor. In the first quarter of 1996, Saab had a loss of 333 million kronor.

There has long been speculation that Investor, which has owned Saab for several decades, wants to dispose of its stake in Saab Auto. Although the carmaker has denied this, a refinancing could be one opportunity to make it happen.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

ING Barings Is Losing More Staff

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — ING Barings, rocked by the defection of 44 executives in its Latin America emerging markets division this week, said Thursday that three of its top equity emerging-market executives and two analysts would leave the company to start their own firm.

Michael Howell, one of the departing executives, said the move was unrelated to the departures of the Latin America employees. He said Michael Baring, who heads ING Barings' emerging markets division, wanted a three- to five-year commitment that he was not prepared to offer. ING Barings is a division of Internationale Nederlanden Groep.

The 44 Latin America specialists were hired by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, and ING has complained that the Amsterdam-based brokerage concern was poaching its staff. Deutsche Morgan has denied the allegations. Peter Geraghty, managing director in charge of fixed-income investments and derivatives at ING Barings, said the loss of the executives, while painful, would not significantly effect the company's business in Latin America.

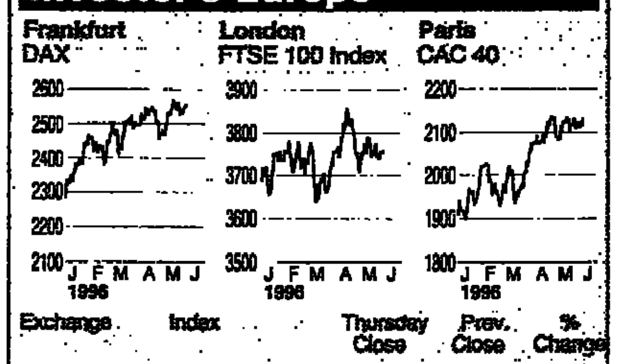
He said the company had expected to be raided by rival companies as emerging markets recovered from the Mexican financial crisis of late 1994 and early 1995 and securities houses rebuilt their staffs.

Industry specialists said they did not expect the departures to cripple ING Barings, although some said the news of the departure of Mr. Howell and the others was a surprise.

"They are indeed some senior people, and it raises a few questions," said Willem Dudok at Emerging Markets Search & Selection, an executive search firm. "Then again, the whole organization is focused on emerging markets. That's their mainstream activity, and they still have plenty of staff."

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	EOE	571.76	570.69	+0.19
Brussels	Stock Exchange	9,480.02	9,442.80	+0.39
Frankfurt	DAX	Closed	2,552.53	-
Copenhagen	Stock Market	403.37	Closed	-
Helsinki	HEX General	2,034.24	2,043.15	-0.44
Oslo	OBX	462.19	460.58	+0.35
London	FTSE 100	3,760.30	3,753.40	+0.18
Madrid	Stock Exchange	366.80	362.58	+0.94
Milan	MIBTEL	10,605.00	10,547.00	+0.55
Paris	CAC 40	2,133.22	2,115.35	+0.84
Stockholm	SX 16	2,156.46	2,144.57	+0.55
Vienna	ATX	Closed	1,138.89	-
Zurich	SPI	2,327.87	2,315.38	+0.54

Source: Telekurs — International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Medeva PLC** will acquire **Fisons PLC's** former operations in Rochester, New York, as well as licenses to sell various drugs from **Rhône-Poulenc Rorer Inc.** for $400 million.
- **Amir Paper Products** won a preliminary ruling in a complaint that charged **Procter & Gamble Co.** with the unfair-trade practice known as dumping. The Israeli diaper maker said the U.S. consumer-products giant had sold German-made Pampers diapers for 40 percent below the selling price in Germany.
- **Axel Springer Verlag AG's** first-quarter 1996 sales rose 4 percent, and its profit was around the same level as in the first quarter of last year.
- **Russia's Finance Ministry** failed to collect 10 trillion rubles ($1.98 billion) in taxes that were due in May, or 20 percent that of those should have been collected, Interfax news agency reported.
- **ASG AB's Frigoscandia AB** unit bid 57 million Swedish kronor ($8.5 million) for **Nordan Transport & Spedisjon A/S**, a Norwegian refrigerated transport company, and the bid was recommended by Nordan directors.
- **Outokumpu Oy's** pretax profit fell 61 percent in the first four months of the year, to 305 million Finnish markkaa ($65 million), as demand for its products fell.
- **Chubb Security PLC** is planning to spend £89 million ($137.5 million) on acquisitions. *AFP, AP, Reuters, Knight-Ridder.*

Solvay Sees Lower Profit on Plastics Slump in Europe

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BRUSSELS — Solvay SA said Thursday it would post a lower profit for the first half and flat earnings for the full year because of weakness in the plastics business in Europe.

"We hope that the results of the full year 1996 will be equal to if not slightly higher than those of 1995," Daniel Janssen, Solvay's chairman, said at the chemical company's annual meeting.

He said the second half of 1995 was "very weak" and that this weakness continued into the first half of 1996. Full-year profit for 1996 will depend on growth in Europe in the second half, particularly in the plastics sector, he said. Europe accounts for two-thirds of the company's sales.

Solvay had net income in 1995 of 12.51 billion Belgian francs ($397.4 million), up from 7.96 billion francs in 1994.

But Mr. Janssen said sales in the United States of Solvay's antidepressant drug Luvox, which rose 50 percent last year, should continue to rise this year.

Solvay shares closed at 18,600 francs, up 100, in trading on the Brussels Bourse.

(AP, Reuters, AFX)

■ Pilkington Profit Soars 47%

Pilkington PLC said its 1996 pretax profit rose 47 percent before a reorganization charge, Bloomberg Business News reported from London.

The glass and building-materials maker said profit for the year ended March 31 was £212 million ($326.5 million) before a previously announced £155 million charge.

Roger Leverton, Pilkington's chief executive officer, said he expected the reorganization to result in savings of £75 million by 1998, more than was previously forecast.

Operating profit rose 17 percent, to £229 million, as profit growth in Europe and North America offset declines in other regions.

The company said it would pay a total dividend of 5.0 pence a share, up from 4.2 pence last year.

Pilkington shares closed at 205 pence, up 7, on the London Stock Exchange.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Thursday, June 6
Prices in local currencies.
Telekurs

Markets Closed

Stock markets in Frankfurt, Sao Paulo, Seoul, and Vienna were closed Thursday for a holiday.

Amsterdam
EOE Index: 571.76 Previous: 570.69

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	93.70	92.50	93.30	93.10
Aegon	83.20	82.70	82.90	83.20
Ahold	97.40	94.50	95.20	95.80
Akzo Nobel	206.40	204	205.10	205.70
Bols Wess cva	30.50	29.90	30.20	30.40
CSM cva	80.80	79.80	80	80
Dordtsche Pet	274.90	272.10	273	272.70
DSM	172.40	170.20	170.20	171.50
Elsevier	26.40	26.30	26.40	26.40
Fortis Amev	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	132.50
G-Broc cva	54	52.90	53	53.80
Hagemeyer	125.80	124.30	125.80	124
Heineken	402	397.50	399	398
Hoogovens	63	61	61.20	62.60
Hunt Douglas	122.50	120.60	121.20	122
ING Group	55.10	53.40	55.10	54.60
KLM	58.80	56.60	57.10	59
KNP BT	41.50	41	41.50	41.50
KPN	63.70	62.90	63.10	62.80
Nedlloyd Gp	41	39.70	40.50	39.90
Nutricia	181.70	174.10	177.50	179.20
Oce Grinten	175.40	174	175	173.20
Pakhoed	48.50	46.50	48.40	46.80
Philips Elec	60.40	59.80	60.30	60.10
Polygram	101.20	100.70	101	101
Randstad Hdg	131.50	127.50	130.50	129
Robeco	129.90	128.90	129	128.50
Rodamco	49.50	49.10	49.30	49.50
Rolinco	140.70	140.10	140.40	140.20
Rorento	96.80	96.70	96.70	96.60
Royal Dutch	260.60	258.80	260	259.20
Stork	49.20	48.40	48.70	48.20
Unilever cva	239	236.30	238.40	236.40
VNU	27.60	27.40	27.60	27.40
Wolters Kl cva	192.90	190.80	191.90	190.80

Bangkok
SET Index: 1283.59 Previous: 1276.61

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adv Info Svc	434	422	434	424
Bangkok Bk F	368	362	364	364
Krung Thai Bk	124	122	123	122
PTT Explor	370	364	364	370
Siam Cement F	1384	1366	1384	1378
Telecomasia	55.50	53.50	55.50	54
Thai Airways	55	54	54	55.50
Thai Farm Bk F	288	282	284	282
Thai Teleph	60	59.50	59.50	59.50
Utd Comm	354	350	354	352

Bombay
Wednesday, June 5
Sensitive Index: 3813.85 Previous: 3793.44

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Assoc Cement	3860	3815	3835.50	3844.25
Grasim Ind	571	568	568	575.25
Hindalco Ind	1330	1314	1325	1325
Indust Lever	824	796.50	822	805
Indian Hotels	800.25	797	797.25	803.25
ITC	279	274.25	278.75	277.75
Larsen Toubro	281.50	275	281.25	277.25
Reliance Ind	243.50	239	242.75	244.75
Tata Eng Loco	499.50	489	499	491.50
Tata Iron St	252.25	246.25	251.25	252.50

Brussels
Stock Exchange Index: 9480.02 Previous: 9442.80

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Arbed	3665	3600	3650	3665
Barco Ind	4950	4930	4935	4910
BBL	5910	5860	5890	5870
Bekaert	26600	26250	26250	26850
CBR	2410	2320	2380	2365
CMB	2555	2520	2540	2550
Cockerill	161	160	160	161
Colruyt	10675	10625	10650	10650
Delhaize Lion	1570	1555	1565	1525
Electrabel	6850	6800	6830	6830
Electrafina	2975	2940	2950	2950
Fortis AG	4340	4255	4305	4355
GIB	1426	1404	1420	1404
GBL	4145	4120	4130	4105
Gen Banque	11250	11025	11200	11200
Glaverbel	3650	3410	3630	3600
Kredietbank	9300	9150	9230	9180
Mosane	2270	2250	2270	2250
Petrofina	9550	9490	9500	9460
Powerfin	4550	4410	4515	4580
Recticel	291	291	291	288
Royale Belge	6350	6280	6330	6410
Soc Gen Belg	2415	2385	2400	2400
Solvay	18700	18550	18600	18500
Tessenderlo	12850	12850	12850	12825
Tractebel	13900	13500	13580	13975
UCB	59000	57100	58600	56800
Union Miniere	2380	2320	2340	2360

Copenhagen
Stock Index: 403.37 Previous: 401.45

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Carlsberg B	325	321	324	320
Danisco	288	285	287	285.71
Den Danske Bk	364.36	360	362	361
D/S Svendborg A	188500	188500	188500	188500
D/S 1912 A	129000	129000	129000	133000
East Asiatic Co	125	122	125	123
FLS Ind B	610	588.53	605	590
ISS Intl Svc B	126	104	126	111
Nvo Nordisk B	826	815	823	810
Radiometer B	385.48	374	380	375
Sophus Ber B	796	779	794	788
Tele Danmk B	296.29	293	295	294
Unidanmark A	256	251	255	253.50

Helsinki
HEX General Index: 2034.24 Previous: 2043.15

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cultor 1	230	229	230	229
Enso R	36.20	36	36.20	36.10
Huhtamaki IF	160	159	160	161
Kesko	59.50	59.20	59.50	59.50
Kone BF	520	520	520	520
Merita A	10.40	10	10.20	10.20
Metra BF	218	216	217	218
Metsa-Serla B	33	32.30	32.50	32.80
Nokia Prf F	189.50	184.50	188	190
Outokumpu A	82	77	82	83
Rautaruukki	35	34.70	34.80	34.90
Stockmann A	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	245
UPM-Kymmene	92.50	91.10	91.50	92.40
Valmet A	74.90	74.50	74.50	74.80

Hong Kong
Hang Seng: 11225.80 Previous: 11092.50

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	9.45	9.40	9.45	9.40
Bk East Asia	28.60	27.90	28.55	28
Cathay Pacific	14.90	14.40	14.80	14.30
Cheung Kong	56.50	55.50	56.25	55
China Light	36.60	36.40	36.50	36.30
Chin Estates	6.95	6.90	6.90	6.90
Citic Pacific	31.60	31.30	31.40	31.20
Cons Elec Pwr	13.40	13.15	13.40	13.05
Dao Heng Bk	29.15	28.80	29.10	29
First Pacific	10.70	10.45	10.60	10.45
Great Eagle	23.65	23.45	23.50	23.50
Guangdong Inv	5	4.93	4.95	4.98
Guoco Group	37.70	37.20	37.60	37.60
Hang Lung	14.80	14.70	14.70	14.65
Hang Seng Bk	80	79.50	80	79.75
Henderson Inv	6.80	6.65	6.75	6.65
Henderson Ld	57.50	57	57.50	56.75
HKR Intl	8.90	8.75	8.85	8.85
HK Aircraft	23.95	23.50	23.95	23.50
HK China Gas	12.35	12.25	12.30	12.25
HK Electric	24.80	24.45	24.80	24.30
HK Shang Htls	13.55	13.45	13.50	13.50
HK Telecomm	14.30	14.15	14.25	14.15
Hopewell Hdgs	4.58	4.53	4.55	4.53
HSBC Hdgs	118.50	117	118	117.50
Hutchison Wh	49.80	48.70	49.70	48.60
Hysan Dev	24.80	24.55	24.80	24.65
Johnson El 500	17.15	16.80	17.10	16.75
Miramar Hotel	17.10	16.90	17	16.90
Natl Mutual	7.05	6.95	6.95	7.10
New World	37.30	36.90	37.30	36.80
Oriental Press	4.40	4.05	4.20	4.10
Orient Telecom	3.53	3.45	3.50	3.48
Shangri-La	10.85	10.75	10.80	10.75
SHK Props	79	77.75	79	77.75
Shun Tak Hdgs	5.15	5	5.10	5.05
Sino Land Co.	7.85	7.75	7.85	7.80
Sth China Post	5.65	5.60	5.60	5.55
Swire Pac A	67	66.25	67	66.25
Tsim Sha Tsui	9.35	9.25	9.35	9.30
TV Broadcasts	30	29.85	29.85	30
Wharf Hdgs	29.10	28.95	28.95	28.95
Wheelock	15.35	15.20	15.30	15.20

Jakarta
Composite Index: 613.22 Previous: 614.08

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Astra Intl	3000	2825	2850	2875
Barito Pacific	1900	1800	1800	1850
Gudang Garm	11200	10000	11000	11000
Indah Kiat	2158	2100	2150	2050
Indocement	8250	8100	8100	8250
Indofood	10800	10700	10700	10800
Indorayon	2125	2050	2075	2125
Indosat	7900	7850	7875	7900
Kalbe Farma	5375	5200	5200	5225
Sampoerna	28750	28575	28575	28325

Johannesburg
All Market: 6828.07 Previous: 6815.81

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AngloAm-Corp	277.50	275	277	277.50
AngloAm Gold	426	424	424	424.50
AngloAm Ind	188	185	188	187
Barlow	45.60	45.45	45.45	45.45
C.G. Smith	23.25	22.80	23.15	23.25
De Beers	140.50	137.50	140	138.50
Driefontein	61.25	60.50	60.50	62.25
Freegold	47.25	46.25	47	48
Fst Natl Bk	30.25	29.20	29.40	29
Gencor	17.05	16.90	17	17.15
GFSA	144	144	144	144
Iscor	3.35	3.30	3.33	3.34
Johnnies Ind	56.50	52.25	56.50	52
Kloof Gold	52	50	50.50	53.75
Liberty Life	132	127.75	131.75	128
Minorco	106.50	106	106	106.50
Nedcor	61	60	60.75	60
Rembrandt Gp	39.30	38.50	39	38.50
Richemont	65	64.25	65	64.50
Rust Platinum	81	80	80	81
SA Breweries	131.75	129.50	131.50	130.50
Sappi	47.35	46.75	46.80	47.50
Sasol	44.60	44.10	44.60	44.10
SBIC	165	162	165	161.50
Tiger Oats	58.25	57.50	58	58

Kuala Lumpur
Composite: 1134.75 Previous: 1135.39

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Genting	21.10	20.80	20.90	20.90
Hicom Hldgs	7.10	7	7.05	7.10
Mal Banking	24.30	24	24.30	24
Mal Intl Ship F	7.50	7.40	7.45	7.50
Public Bank F	6.55	6.45	6.50	6.45
Resorts World	14.40	14.30	14.40	14.40
Sime Darby	6.80	6.75	6.80	6.80
Telekom Mal	23	22.90	22.90	23
Tenaga	10.60	10.40	10.60	10.50
Utd Engineers	17.30	17.20	17.20	17.20

London
FT-SE 100: 3760.30 Previous: 3753.40

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Natl	5.66	5.51	5.51	5.64
Allied Domecq	4.87	4.15	4.74	4.83
Anglian Water	5.95	5.87	5.88	5.92
Argyll Group	3.62	3.56	3.59	3.60
Arjo Wiggins	1.75	1.72	1.73	1.74
Asda Group	1.21	1.17	1.17	1.21
Assoc Br Foods	3.84	3.81	3.84	3.80
BAA	4.90	4.83	4.88	4.84
Barclays	7.83	7.65	7.67	7.80
Bass	8.18	8.09	8.16	8.10
BAT Ind	5.23	5.13	5.16	5.21
Bank Scotland	2.76	2.73	2.74	2.73
BICC	3.35	3.30	3.34	3.32
Blue Circle	3.67	3.59	3.66	3.59
BOC Group	9.40	9.30	9.38	9.33
Boots	6.13	6.03	6.08	6.04
Bowater	3.59	3.50	3.55	3.51
BPB Ind	3.26	3.28	3.23	3.21
Brit Aerosp	9.15	8.88	9.13	8.89
Brit Airways	5.58	5.43	5.49	5.39
Brit Gas	2	1.82	1.82	1.89
Brit Petm	5.67	5.59	5.64	5.60
Brit Steel	1.77	1.71	1.77	1.71
Brit Telecom	3.69	3.64	3.49	3.65
BTR	2.79	2.67	2.76	2.67
Burmah Cast	10.45	10.37	10.45	10.39
Cable Wireless	4.44	4.29	4.30	4.32
Cadbury Schw	4.93	4.87	4.89	4.91
Caradon	2.33	2.28	2.30	2.28
Carlton Comm	4.94	4.88	4.92	4.90
Coats Viyella	1.82	1.77	1.80	1.78
Comml Union	6.04	5.88	6.01	5.95
Courtaulds	4.34	4.26	4.31	4.31
De La Rue	6.42	6.28	6.41	6.27
Eng China Cl	2.75	2.67	2.68	2.70
Enterprise Oil	4.64	4.58	4.62	4.63
Fors Colonial	1.61	1.59	1.60	1.99
Genl Accident	6.91	6.83	6.88	6.88
GEC	3.74	3.63	3.72	3.66
GKN	9.92	9.75	9.87	9.75
Glaxo	8.42	8.30	8.35	8.30
Granada Gp	8.31	8.26	8.29	8.29
Grand Met	4.41	4.33	4.38	4.31
GRE	2.76	2.73	2.74	2.73
Guinness	4.64	4.58	4.60	4.60
GUS	6.91	6.84	6.84	6.84
Hanson	1.92	1.82	1.83	1.83
Hillsdown Hdg	1.81	1.76	1.77	1.80
HSBC Hldgs	9.88	9.78	9.87	9.74
ICI	8.62	8.48	8.56	8.49
Inchcape	3.05	3	3.04	3.01
Kingfisher	6.17	6.01	6.15	6.05
Ladbroke	1.93	1.85	1.86	1.92
Land Sec	6.25	6.18	6.25	6.18
Laporte	7.35	7.25	7.25	7.35
Lasmo	1.80	1.75	1.77	1.77
Legal Genl Grp	7.08	7.03	7.05	6.99
Lloyds Abbey	5.17	5.10	5.12	5.14
Lloyds TSB Gp	3.25	3.12	3.15	3.25
London Elec	7.10	6.98	7	7.03
Lucas Ind	2.57	2.52	2.55	2.55
Marks Spencer	4.71	4.67	4.71	4.68
MEPC	4.10	4.06	4.10	4.06
Mercury Asset	9.89	9.48	9.58	9.60
Midlands Elec	4.43	4.41	4.42	4.41
Natl Power	5.30	5.18	5.25	5.23
NatWest	6.83	6.27	6.31	6.35
News Intl	3.08	3.07	3.04	3.04
Utd Utilities	5.85	5.76	5.80	5.75
Nthern Foods	1.91	1.89	1.91	1.89
P&O	5.17	5.08	5.13	5.15
Pearson	7.05	6.86	7	6.95
Pilkington	2.06	2	2.05	1.98
PowerGen	4.87	4.83	4.83	4.85
Prudential	4.26	4.18	4.23	4.21
Rank Org	5.08	5.01	5.07	5.06
Reckitt Colm	7.02	6.95	6.99	6.98
Redland	4.08	4.01	4.08	4.01
Reed Intl	11.12	10.96	11.09	10.97
Rentokil	4.17	4.13	4.17	4.14
Reuters Hdgs	7.68	7.49	7.56	7.53
RMC Group	10.35	10.11	10.30	10.10
Rolls Royce	2.28	2.22	2.24	2.22
Royal Bk Scot	5.41	5.30	5.31	5.40
RTZ reg	9.94	9.63	9.48	9.91
Royal Insur	4.22	4.18	4.18	4.21
Sainsbury	3.99	3.93	3.93	3.97
Schroders	13.75	13.55	13.70	13.69
Scot Newcastle	6.85	6.79	6.85	6.79
Scot Power	3.19	3.08	3.18	3.10
Sears	0.99	0.94	0.98	0.95
Severn Trent	5.92	5.83	5.84	5.84
Shell Trsp reg	9.26	9.15	9.23	9.15
Siebe	8.82	8.68	8.80	8.68
Smith Nephew	2.11	2.05	2.11	2.05
Smith (WH)	4.56	4.46	4.56	4.46
SmithKline	6.86	6.75	6.82	6.77
Smiths Ind	6.96	6.85	6.88	6.84
Sthern Elec	7.24	7.15	7.22	7.17
Stand Charter	6.73	6.49	6.65	6.48
Sun Alliance	3.98	3.94	3.94	3.98
Tate & Lyle	4.60	4.56	4.59	4.58
Tesco	3.17	3.06	3.06	3.14
Thames Water	5.75	5.67	5.69	5.68
Thorn EMI	18.40	18.15	18.29	18.20
3i Group	4.54	4.51	4.51	4.50
TI Group	5.40	5.33	5.40	5.33
Tomkins	2.85	2.47	2.50	2.51
Unilever	12.25	12.11	12.19	12.14
Utd Biscuits	2.22	2.17	2.20	2.21
Utd News	7.09	6.90	6.98	7.05
Vendome uts	6.55	6.43	6.43	6.48
Vodafone	2.51	2.45	2.47	2.48
Whitbread	7.62	7.25	7.27	7.24
Williams Hdgs	3.48	3.42	3.45	3.44
Wolseley	4.68	4.62	4.67	4.60
Zeneca	13.82	13.57	13.77	13.62

Madrid
Stock Exchange Index: 366.80 Previous: 362.58

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Acerinox	13990	13890	13930	13930
ACESA	1475	1430	1465	1430
Argentaria	5470	5430	5450	5430
BBV	4865	4845	4865	4825
Banesto	824	813	824	820
Bankinter	13380	13310	13350	13350
Bco Central Hisp	2590	2555	2590	2570
Bco Exterior	3040	3020	3020	3040
Bco Popular	22290	22080	22130	22240
Bco Santander	5980	5910	5960	5900
CEPSA	4235	4000	4230	4000
Corp Mapfre	6280	6140	6190	6210
Dragados	1690	1650	1675	1660
Endesa	8260	8120	8250	8120
FECSA	986	962	980	954
Fomento Const	10340	10110	10340	10150
Gas Natural	22970	22700	22900	22700
Hidroel Cantab	4380	4220	4345	4225
Iberdrola	1315	1309	1315	1300
Pryca	3065	3025	3065	3015
Repsol	4375	4340	4350	4340
Sevillana Elec	1165	1135	1165	1140
Tabacalera	6450	6270	6400	6390
Telefonica	2345	2310	2340	2305
Union Fenosa	816	794	815	791
Valenc Cement	1565	1550	1565	1565

Manila
PSE Index: 3237.26 Previous: 3239.57

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ayala A	27	26.50	27	27
Ayala Land	45.50	44.50	45	45
Manila Elec A	157	156	157	156
Metro Bank	790	780	780	780
Petron	10.50	10	10	10.25
Phil Long Dist	1560	1525	1550	1520
San Miguel A	46.50	46	46	46.50
San Miguel B	90	89.50	89.50	89.50
SM Prime Hdg	6.20	6.10	6.10	6.20

Mexico
Bolsa Index: 3271.94 Previous: 3257.24

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alfa A	124.00	121.80	123.00	122.00
Cemex B	30.58	29.60	30.15	29.50
Cifra C	11.42	11.28	11.32	11.30
Empresas ICA	110.00	108.30	109.00	109.50
Emp Moderna	35.55	35.20	35.45	35.25
Femsa	22.40	22.15	22.30	22.15
Gpo Carso A1	54.60	53.80	54.10	54.30
Televisa CPO	119.70	117.60	118.70	117.70
TelMex L	12.76	12.58	12.64	12.64
Tribasa CPO	23.40	22.90	22.90	23.40

Milan
MIB Telematico: 10605.00 Previous: 10547.00

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alleanza Assic	13930	13455	13930	13505
Bco Comm Ital	3335	3270	3300	3270
Bca Naz Agricol	958	936	945	945
Bca Naz Lavoro	11270	11150	11150	11300
Bca di Roma	1520	1500	1505	1495
Bco Ambrosiano	4345	4200	4280	4330
Benetton	20500	19720	20300	19790
Credito Italiano	1942	1915	1959	1920
Fiat	5240	5195	5205	5205
Fondiaria	8150	7830	8135	7915
Generali Assic	37250	36800	37050	36650
IFIL	5045	5015	5030	5025
Italcementi	12620	12410	12410	12600
Italgas	5660	5555	5640	5600
Mediobanca	10600	10370	10600	10410
Montedison	944	931	935	941
Olivetti	997	987	994	980
Pirelli	2670	2610	2670	2620
RAS	16650	16190	16630	16245
Rinascente	10695	10500	10600	10525
S Paolo Torino	9475	9300	9400	9440
SME	1703	1703	1703	1701
Standa	16400	16400	16400	17000
Stet	5365	5310	5345	5335
Telecom Italia	3140	3105	3125	3110
Toro Assic	20200	19900	20000	19900

Montreal
Industrials Index: 2514.59 Previous: 2523.05

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alco I	19	18.90	18.90	19
Bank Montreal	32.70	32.25	32½	32.55
Bce Mob Com	45.55	45.55	45.55	45
Cdn Tire A	18.60	18.30	18.60	18½
Cdn Util A	26.70	26.55	26.55	26.60
Cascades	5.90	5.80	5.85	5.80
CT Finl Svc	26	26	26	25½
Extendicare	17.05	17.05	17.05	17⅛
Gaz Metro	15.70	15.55	15.55	15½
Gt-West Lifeco	32	31½	32	31.45
Hees Intl Bcp	15.85	15.55	15.70	15.80
Hudsons Bay	19¾	19.35	19¾	19.35
Imasco	28.35	27.70	28.35	27.85
Investors Grp	17¾	17.70	17.70	17.80
Loblaw Cos	11	11	11	11.10
Molson A	23.10	23	23.10	23.05
Natl Bk Canada	11.90	11.80	11.90	11.85
Oshawa A	22¼	22¼	22¼	22¼
Pancdn Petm	53¾	53¾	53¾	53¾
Power Corp	22.45	22.15	22.35	22.35
Power Finl	38	37½	38	37¾
Quebecor B	21.70	21.60	21.60	21.60
Rogers Comm B	13.70	13.60	13.70	13.70
Royal Bk Cda	32.40	32.05	32.15	32.35
Sears Canada	7.40	7⅜	7.40	7.30
Shell Cda A	47.10	47	47.05	47.05
Southam	15.95	15⅞	15.95	16
Stelco A	6½	6.40	6.40	6.45
Trilon Finl A	5.40	5.40	5.40	5.40

Oslo
OBX Index: 462.19 Previous: 460.58

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aker A	128	126	126	127.50
Bergesen Dy B	125.50	124.50	125	125.50
Christiania Bk	15.70	15.40	15.60	15.60
Den Norske Bk	20.20	19.90	20	20.10
SAS Norge ASA	73	71	73	71
Dyno Indust	139	139	139	139
Elkem	86.50	84	85.50	87
Hafslund A	51	50.50	51	51
Kvaerner	258	255	258	257.50
Leif Hoegh	104	103	103	103.50
Norsk Hydro	312.50	309	312.50	311.50
Norske Skog A	197	195	195	195
Orkla	331	326	330	326
Rieber B	140	139	139	139
Saga Petm B	91	89	90	91.50
Schibsted	87	86.50	87	87
UniStorebr A	31.20	30.90	31	31.10

Paris
CAC-40: 2133.22 Previous: 2115.35

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Accor	747	738	741	744
AGF	142	140.60	141	140.60
Air Liquide	928	915	920	909
Alcatel Alsth	471.80	468.60	470.80	467.90
Axa	296.80	294.10	296	295.40
Bancaire	584	572	580	565
BNP	192.60	190.20	190.90	191.60
Bouygues	577	569	575	566
Canal Plus	1223	1170	1194	1199
Carrefour	2758	2733	2738	2742
CCF	252.70	251	252	252.30
Credit Local Cl	443	435.20	441.50	434.70
Credit Lyon PC	144	140.90	143	145
Crown Cork Seal	246.30	245.50	245.50	246.50
Danone	769	760	764	761
Elf-Aquitaine	389.50	381.20	388.10	377.30
Eridania BS	820	814	817	808
Euro Disney	15	14.60	14.60	14.70
Eurotunnel uts	8.65	8.20	8.30	8.60
Gen. Eaux	566	554	558	553
Havas	433	429.90	431.60	433.50
Lafarge Cop	335.90	331.50	334	331
Legrand	946	918	938	913
L'Oreal	1630	1614	1620	1609
LVMH	1299	1289	1290	1286
Lyon. Eaux	512	503	509	505
Michelin B	265	257.60	264.70	258
Moulinex	765	756	765	761
Paribas A	325	315.20	323	316.90
Pechiney SA	227	223.50	224.50	225.20
Pernod Ricard	344.50	338.20	341.40	337.10
Peugeot Cit	725	719	721	721
Pinault-Print	1629	1602	1602	1609
Promodes	1363	1334	1352	1331
Renault	140.90	137	140.50	138.30
Rh-Poulenc A	133.50	131.50	133.30	131
Roussel-Uclaf	1214	1195	1201	1192
Sanofi	401.50	393.50	395	394
Schneider	245	241.50	244.90	240.80
Ste Generale	566	559	559	557
St Gobain	675	665	669	664
St Louis	1433	1401	1426	1401
Suez	202.50	200	200.50	200.50
Thomson CSF	141.90	136.10	140.50	137.60
Total B	385.60	377.60	384.60	377
UAP	105.20	101.90	102.50	103.50
Valeo	284	282	283.50	284.50

Singapore
Straits Times: 2334.26 Previous: 2326.81

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cerebos Pac	12.90	12.90	12.90	12.80
City Devlts	11.30	10.90	11.10	10.90
Cycle Carriage	15.20	14.80	15.10	15
Dairy Farm Int*	0.84	0.83	0.83	0.83
DBS	9.45	9.30	9.40	9.25
DBS Land	4.88	4.66	4.88	4.66
Fraser & Neave	15.90	15.50	15.50	15.60
HK Land*	2.26	2.21	2.25	2.26
Hong Leong Fin	3.90	3.84	3.90	3.84
Jard Matheson*	7.60	7.30	7.30	7.60
Jard Strategic*	2.99	2.94	2.94	2.99
Keppel	12.10	11.70	11.80	11.70
Natsteel	2.70	2.66	2.67	2.70
Neptune Orient	1.44	1.42	1.43	1.42
OCBC foreign	18.70	18.10	18.70	18
OSea Union Bk	6.80	6.75	6.75	6.75
Sembawang	7.20	7.10	7.10	7.10
Sing Airlines F	14.70	14.40	14.70	14.40
Sing Petm	1.72	1.70	1.72	1.72
Sing Press F	27.60	26.60	27.10	26.60
ST Auto F	2.89	2.88	2.88	2.89
ST Ship	2.46	2.42	2.46	2.48
Sing Telecomm	3.92	3.74	3.82	3.76
Straits Steam	4.64	4.54	4.62	4.60
Utd Industrial	1.47	1.43	1.47	1.42
Utd OSea Bk F	13.50	12.80	13.20	12.70
Wing Tai Hdgs	3.14	3.02	3.04	3

*: In U.S. dollars.

Stockholm
SX 16 Index: 2156.46 Previous: 2144.57

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AGA BF	116	113	116	113.50
Asea AF	705	698	704	698
AssiDoman F	153	151	153	153
Astra AF	316	311	314.50	310
Atlas Copco AF	127	125.50	126.50	126
Avesta F	69.50	68	69	69.50
Electrolux BF	358	348	348.50	358
Ericsson BF	154	151.50	153.50	153.50
Hennes BF	519	515	518	513
Incentive AF	348	344	348	345
Investor BF	249	247	247.50	247.50
Kinnevik BF	197	195	195.50	195.50
MoDo BF	174.50	172	172	175
Sandvik BF	155	153	154.50	154
SCA BF	138	136.50	137	137
S-E Banken AF	55	54	54.50	54
Skandia Fors F	178	176	177.50	175.50
Skanska BF	226.50	224	225.50	224
SKF BF	153	150.50	153	153
SSAB BF	88.50	87	88	88
Stora AF	91	87.50	88	89.50
Sv Handles AF	146	142	146	143
Sydkraft AF	148	145	148	144
Trelleborg BF	86.50	85	85.50	87.50
Volvo BF	153.50	148.50	151.50	148.50

Sydney
All Ordinaries: 2213.80 Previous: 2229.70

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amcor	8.53	8.41	8.47	8.42
ANZ Bkng	5.60	5.54	5.58	5.57
BHP	18.60	18.32	18.45	18.68
Boral	3.29	3.25	3.26	3.29
Brambles Ind.	17.60	17.39	17.39	17.62
Burns Philp	2.42	2.38	2.40	2.42
CBA	10.02	9.93	10.01	10.04
CC Amatil	13.65	13.45	13.65	13.66
Coles Myer	4.58	4.55	4.58	4.57
Comalco	7.32	6.90	7.05	7.32
CRA Ltd	19.90	19.70	19.77	20
CSR	4.58	4.53	4.58	4.59
Fosters Brew	2.22	2.17	2.21	2.22
GIO Australia	3.02	2.99	3.02	3.02
Goodman Fld	1.28	1.25	1.26	1.27
ICI Australia	10.60	10.55	10.60	10.60
John Fairfax	2.71	2.66	2.71	2.68
Lend Lease	19.29	18.99	19.20	19.20
Mayne Nickless	7.20	7.13	7.15	7.20
MIM Hdgs	1.74	1.71	1.73	1.76
Nat Aust Bank	11.60	11.51	11.56	11.54
News Corp	6.97	6.91	6.96	6.86
North Ltd	3.64	3.58	3.60	3.65
Pacific Dunlop	2.70	2.66	2.70	2.69
Pioneer Intl	3.71	3.63	3.66	3.72
Placer Pacific	2.06	1.97	1.99	2.06
Santos	4.31	4.26	4.30	4.30
Southcorp	3.20	3.14	3.15	3.21
Wesfarmers	7.35	7.16	7.26	7.34
Wstrn Mining	9.28	9.05	9.13	9.30
Westfield Trt	2.22	2.19	2.20	2.18
Westpac Bkng	5.41	5.37	5.39	5.40
Woodside Pet	7.30	7.16	7.24	7.30
Woolworths	3.09	3.06	3.07	3.09

Taipei
Stock Market Index: 6019.05 Previous: 5951.84

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asia Cement	49.20	48.70	48.70	48.90
Cathay Life Ins	173	171	171	171
Chang Hwa Bk	148	146.50	147.50	146
China Steel	27.30	26.90	27.10	26.60
China Trust	51.50	50.50	51	50.50
Evergreen	46.50	45.50	45.90	45.20
Far East Text	28.10	27.40	27.80	27.40
First Bank	146.50	145	145.50	144.50
Formosa CF	28.70	28.10	28.50	27.80
Hua Nan Bk	132	130.50	131.50	130
Hualon Teijran	23.10	22.10	22.90	21.90
ICBC	86	85	85	85
President Ent	39.80	39.30	39.60	39.10
Taiwan Cem	55.50	54.50	55.50	54.50
Tatung	54.50	53.50	54.50	53.50

Tokyo
Nikkei 225: 21804.46 Previous: 21881.43

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ajinomoto	1280	1260	1260	1270
All Nippon Air	1180	1160	1160	1160
Asahi Bank	1300	1280	1280	1290
Asahi Chem	825	802	806	792
Asahi Glass	1310	1300	1300	1300
Bk Tokyo Mitsu	2540	2520	2530	2540
Bk Yokohama	929	922	929	922
Bridgestone	1910	1890	1890	1890
Canon	2120	2100	2100	2070
Chiba Bank	922	908	908	925
Chubu Elec	2550	2520	2530	2540
Chugoku Elec	2450	2430	2430	2430
Daiei	1310	1290	1300	1300
Daiichi Kang	2000	1980	1980	1980
Daiwa Bank	792	785	785	789
Daiwa House	1670	1650	1650	1670
Daiwa Sec	1440	1420	1420	1430
Fanuc	4390	4320	4320	4310
Fuji Bank	2350	2320	2330	2350
Fuji Photo	3320	3230	3250	3300
Fujitsu	997	981	988	992
Hitachi	1020	1000	1010	1010
Honda Motor	2710	2670	2670	2680
IBJ	2720	2700	2710	2720
IHI	501	494	494	499
Itochu	770	759	763	764
Ito-Yokado	6300	6260	6300	6250
JAL	870	845	860	868
Jusco	3290	3250	3260	3240
Kajima	1140	1110	1130	1140
Kansai Elec	2510	2490	2500	2510
Kao	1450	1430	1430	1430
Kawa Steel	390	381	382	386
KDD	9960	9600	9610	9760
Kinki Nipp Ry	793	786	789	790
Kirin Brewery	1343	1320	1330	1330
Kobe Steel	307	300	300	306
Komatsu	1090	1070	1080	1078
Kubota	729	718	718	724
Kyocera	7720	7660	7710	7670
Kyushu Elec	2590	2560	2590	2580
LTCB	869	864	867	869
Marubeni	610	595	606	607
Marui	2220	2210	2210	2200
Matsu Elec Ind	1880	1860	1860	1870
Matsu Elec Wk	1180	1170	1170	1170
Mitsubishi	1480	1460	1460	1470
Mitsubishi Ch	520	510	514	516
Mitsubishi El	752	740	747	750
Mitsubishi Est	1480	1450	1460	1470
Mitsubishi Hvy	929	922	922	927
Mitsubishi Mat	919	917	919	912
Mitsubishi Tr	1790	1760	1770	1780
Mitsui	1000	995	997	995
Mitsui Fudosn	1400	1370	1380	1350
Mitsui Trust	1200	1180	1180	1190
Murata Mfg	4050	4000	4050	3960
NEC	1220	1180	1190	1220
New Oji Paper	942	935	935	935
Nikko Sec	1180	1150	1150	1170
Nintendo	8050	7950	8010	7950
Nipp Credit Bk	403	399	400	400
Nipp Express	1080	1070	1080	1070
Nippon Oil	712	701	703	703
Nippon Paper	730	721	721	727
Nippon Steel	361	355	358	357
Nippon Yusen	635	630	630	633
Nippondenso	2350	2320	2320	2340
Nissan Motor	905	892	895	900
NKK	321	314	315	318
Nomura Sec	2070	2050	2050	2060
NTT	8070a	7920a	7950a	8080a
Obayashi	995	985	985	990
Odakyu El Ry	717	710	712	718
Ono Pharm	3820	3790	3820	3800
Osaka Gas	418	410	412	416
Ricoh	1150	1110	1120	1120
Sakura Bk	1210	1190	1190	1200
Sankyo	2580	2570	2570	2580
Sanwa Bank	2070	2050	2050	2070
Sanyo Elec	639	636	638	638
Secom	7030	6980	7010	7030
Seibu Rwy	5900	5730	5870	5730
Sekisui House	1280	1250	1260	1270
Seven-Eleven	6780	6690	6690	6790
Sharp	1810	1780	1780	1790
Shimizu	1220	1180	1200	1220
Shin-etsu Ch	2200	2170	2170	2190
Shizuoka Bk	1370	1350	1350	1370
Sony	6980	6940	6970	6960
Sumitomo	1230	1210	1220	1220
Sumitomo Bk	2080	2030	2050	2070
Sumit Chem	539	521	525	532
Sumitomo Elec	1510	1480	1490	1490
Sumit Metal	327	319	321	320
Sumit Trust	1480	1460	1460	1470
Taisei	810	802	808	797
Taisho Pharm	2390	2370	2390	2380
Takeda Chem	1810	1780	1780	1810
TDK	6280	6240	6240	6270
Tohoku El Pwr	2480	2460	2460	2470
Tokai Bank	1350	1320	1340	1340
Tokio Marine	1410	1390	1390	1400
Tokyo El Pwr	2780	2750	2780	2750
Tokyo Gas	404	400	403	401
Tokyu	830	812	812	824
Tonen	1570	1530	1530	1570
Toppan Print	1550	1540	1540	1540
Toray Ind	745	740	743	740
Toshiba	769	753	755	762
Toyo Seikan	3900	3860	3900	3860
Toyo Trust	1020	1000	1010	1000
Toyota Motor	2550	2510	2520	2540
Yamaichi Sec	767	756	756	763
Yamanouchi	2280	2250	2250	2280
Yasuda Fire	821	816	817	820
Yasuda Trust	668	656	656	668

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Toronto
TSE Industrials: 5158.37 Previous: 5194.94

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abitibi Price	18.40	18¼	18.40	18.40
Air Canada	5.15	5.05	5.10	5.15
Alberta Energy	26.65	26.30	26.65	26.40
Alcan Alum	42.30	41.10	41.20	42.40
Avenor A	22.80	22.65	22.80	22.95
Bk Nova Scotia	33.45	33.05	33.10	33.35
Barrick Gold	40.10	39.40	39.55	40¼
BCE	55.20	54.70	55.15	54.65
BC Telecomm	26.55	26.40	26½	26.60
Bombardier B	19.90	19¼	19.85	19.35
Brascan A	26½	25.85	26.15	26.60
Cameco	68½	67.80	67.90	68.65
CIBC	46	45.30	45.35	45.70
Cdn Airlines	3.10	3.05	3.05	3.10
Cdn Nat Res	23.90	23.45	23.70	23½
Cdn Occid Pet	24.15	24	24.10	24.10
Cdn Pacific	28.90	28.20	28¾	28
Cominco	32	30.85	31.45	31¼
Consumers Gas	21.05	21.05	21.05	21.10
Dofasco	21.15	20.95	21.15	21¼
Doman Ind B	9.70	9.70	9.70	9¾
Du Pont Cda A	31	30⅜	30½	30½
Echo Bay Min	16.45	15⅝	15.85	16⅛
Empire Co. A	12½	12.30	12½	12⅝
Falconbridge	30.40	29.95	30	30.65
Fletcher Chall A	18.55	18.40	18.55	18.55
Franco Nevada	89½	84	85.15	87
Guardian Cap A	9⅛	9⅛	9⅛	9⅛
Hemlo Gold	16.80	16.35	16.55	16.90
Horsham	19⅜	19⅛	19.40	19.60
Imperial Oil	57.20	56.80	56.90	57.10
Inco	44⅛	43.80	43.95	45
IPL Energy	34⅛	34.40	34⅜	34.40
Laidlaw A	13.90	13.90	13.90	13.95
Laidlaw B	14.05	13.85	14.05	13.90
Loewen Group	40	39⅝	39.70	40.10
Ldn Insur Gp	28.45	28¼	28.35	28½
Macmill Bld	18.10	17.70	18.10	17.70
Magna Intl A	66.10	65.10	65.70	65.60
Maple Leaf Fds	7.45	7.35	7.40	7.35
Moore	25.70	25.40	25.65	25.60
Newbridge Net	96.80	91.10	91¾	96½
Noranda Inc	29.40	28.35	28.45	29½
Noranda Forest	9.10	8.90	8.90	9.15
Norcen Energy	22¾	22.40	22¾	22½
Nthern Telecom	75½	74.30	74.45	75
Nova	13.10	12¾	12.95	13.10
Onex	13.60	13¼	13.60	13.35
Placer Dome	37¼	36.05	36.30	37.10
Potash Sask	87½	83½	85¾	88
Provigo	7.45	7	7.15	7.60
Quebecor Print	23.45	23.10	23.40	23.10
Renaissance	36.10	35.65	35.85	35.95
Rio Algom	27.30	26.60	27	27½
Seagram Co	48.40	47.85	48	48¼
Stone Consold	16.30	16¼	16.30	16.30
Talisman Eny	33.10	32¾	33.10	33.05
Teleglobe	20.35	20.20	20.35	20.35
Telus	18.15	18.05	18.15	18.05
Thomson	23.35	23.20	23.20	23.30
TorDom Bank	25.15	24.90	25	25.05
Transalta	14⅛	14.70	14⅝	14⅝
TransCda Pipe	20.20	20.05	20.20	20.10
Utd Dominion	31.80	31.40	31.55	31.80
Westburn	10	9.85	10	9.85
Westcoast Eny	20½	20¼	20.40	20.45
Weston	47	46½	46.90	46.20

Wellington
NZSE-40 Index: 2025.18 Previous: 2044.43

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Air N Zealnd B	3.34	3.26	3.26	3.34
Brierly Invt	1.31	1.29	1.29	1.32
Carter Holt ord	3.32	3.26	3.31	3.30
Fernz	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.30
Fisher Paykel	4.30	4.28	4.28	4.30
FC Forest	1.88	1.86	1.87	1.88
Goodman Fder	1.50	1.47	1.48	1.47
Indep News	4.99	4.96	4.97	4.99
Lion Nathan	3.60	3.55	3.60	3.58
Nat Gas note	1.93	1.90	1.90	1.95
NZ Refining	25.75	25.75	25.75	25.50
Telecom NZ	5.88	5.80	5.80	5.90
Trust Bk NZ	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21
Wilson Horton	9.50	9.48	9.48	9.57

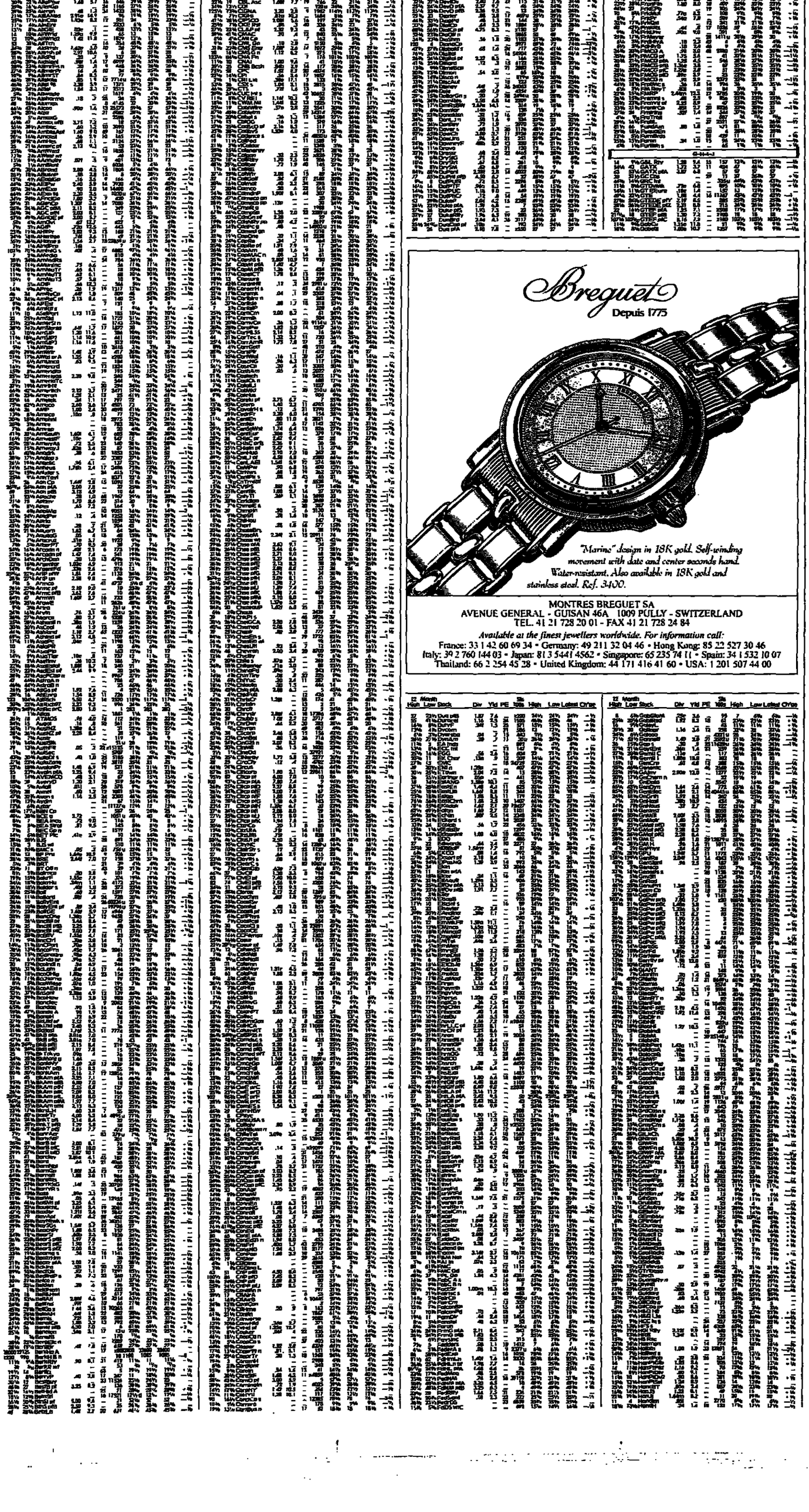
Zurich
SPI Index: 2327.87 Previous: 2315.38

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adia B	319	313	315	318
Alusuisse R	994	986	994	988
Ares-Serono B	979	970	978	965
Baer Hdg B	1365	1350	1365	1355
Baloise Hdg R	2720	2680	2680	2690
ABB B	1506	1496	1500	1496
Bk Vision	1448	1422	1446	1418
Bobst B	1810	1800	1800	1810
Ciba Geigy R	1414	1409	1412	1404
CS Holdings R	107.50	105.75	107.50	109
Elektrowatt B	441	434	438	443
Fischer B	1405	1390	1400	1400
Hilti PC	910	910	910	910
Holderbank B	963	957	961	960
Merkur Hdg R	268	265	267	269
Nestle R	1416	1408	1413	1411
Oerlikon R	134	132	133	132.50
Pargesa Hld B	1480	1460	1460	1470
PharmVisn B	5750	5700	5720	5685
Pirelli B	171	169	170	170
Roche Hdg PC	9550	9440	9540	9500
Sandoz R	1330	1322	1325	1320
SBC R	231.50	226.75	231	226
Schindler B	1310	1300	1310	1315
SGS B	2955	2920	2920	2805
SMH B	858	851	855	856
Sulzer R	795	785	790	790
Swiss Reinsr R	1242	1223	1232	1232
Swissair R	1280	1260	1280	1248
UBS B	1185	1173	1183	1168
Winterthur B	734	729	732	724
Zurich Assur R	340	338	339	336

NYSE

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close

Nationwide prices, not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.



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Continued on Page 20

Singapore Joins 2 Japanese Firms In New Chip Plant

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SINGAPORE — Hitachi Ltd., Nippon Steel Corp. and the Singapore government will spend 100 billion yen ($917.1 million) to build a plant in Singapore to make silicon wafers for 64-megabit dynamic random access memory chips, or D-RAMs, the two companies said Thursday.

The announcement comes amid a worldwide slump in memory-chip prices driven by slowing orders from personal-computer makers and a surge in production capacity.

Separately, NEC Corp. and Mitsubishi Electric Corp. said they would scale back production of 16-megabit D-RAMs because of oversupply, and a Hitachi executive said he was sure his company would soon follow suit.

The three partners in the new venture, however, said the glut was in the market for less sophisticated chips than the ones the new plant will produce, and they expressed confidence that there would be strong demand for the wafers needed to make the new chips when production began in the second half of 1998.

"We are at the bottom of the silicon cycle," said Keizaburo Hama, deputy managing director of the venture. "The market will be recovering by 1998 in time for the start of our production."

The plant will employ about 600 people and have a capacity of 20,000 8-inch (20-centimeter) silicon wafers a month. Construction is to begin in October.

Hitachi and Nippon Steel will each hold 35 percent of the venture, to be called Hitachi Nippon Steel Semiconductor Singapore Pte. It will have an initial capitalization of 440 million Singapore dollars ($312.1 million).

The Singapore government, through its Economic Development Board, will hold the remaining 30 percent and has the option to sell its stake to either partner, said Lim Swee Say, managing director of the board.

A separate Hitachi unit will turn each wafer into hundreds of chips, which will then be sold to the three partners according to their ownership stakes or on the open market through Hitachi and Nippon Steel's distribution networks, Mr. Hama said.

These next-generation chips are expected to be widely used in computers and audio-visual products such as digital videodisks, which are compact disks that hold movies, computer data and music.

Japanese chipmakers, threatened by falling prices and competition from companies in South Korea and Taiwan, have begun to shift production to lower-cost countries and to emphasize what they hope will be more profitable devices.

Analysts said Hitachi, by building the plant outside Japan, also would be cutting down its exposure to changes in the yen-dollar rate.

"Making semiconductors is not a labor-intensive process, so I don't think it matters that much where they produce," said Yoshio Inamura of Diamond Asset Management Co. *(Bloomberg, Reuters)*

Acer Will Sell Low-Cost Internet PC

Bloomberg Business News

TAIPEI — Acer Inc. said Thursday it would unveil a low-priced Internet-ready personal computer June 18.

Acer plans to sell the computer for about $500 in Southeast Asia, Latin America and China. The company did not originally plan to sell the machine in the United States, but it said Thursday it would sell a version of the PC in the United states for "not more than $800."

Acer's sales target for the computer, which will be known as AcerBasic, is 1 million units in its first year on the market.

If sales do not meet that goal, Acer will probably decide to drop the product, said Arthur Pai, product manager.

The fate of the new product is important to Iomega Corp., whose Zip storage disk drives will be included in the machine. Iomega, based in Roy, Utah, shipped 1 million of the drives in the year ended March 31.

Mr. Pai said sales of the new computer were not likely to have much impact on Acer's bottom line.

Vietnam Vies for Tourists

But U.S. Hotelier Gets Lukewarm Reception

Bloomberg Business News

HANOI — In 1993 an American corporate lawyer named Robert Bernstein looked at a crumbling Soviet-style hotel on a beach in central Vietnam and envisioned tourists by the busload coming to play golf, stay in luxury hotels and romp in the South China Sea.

Three years and $2.5 million later, Mr. Bernstein still has his vision. Unfortunately, he still has a crumbling Soviet-style hotel, too.

Last year Mr. Bernstein's company — BBI Investment Group Ltd. — signed a contract to build four hotels with 1,600 rooms just south of China Beach, a famous recreational spot for American soldiers during the Vietnam War. BBI also agreed to build a golf course, villas and a convention center and to renovate the old hotel.

At $243 million, it was the biggest American investment in Vietnam at the time. BBI, however, has no experience in hotels and has been chided by Hanoi since winning the contract for not paying several million dollars the state says the company promised.

Vietnam is so eager to lure tourists, however, that it licensed this obscure company to build a project big enough to test the mettle of larger, more experienced developers. As a way of revving up its economy, Vietnam wants to draw 3.5 million tourists a year by the end of the century, more than twice as many as now. But the country has few comfortable hotels, and travel can be difficult.

Moreover, the government itself can make investing in Vietnam a miasma of red tape and hassles.

Mr. Bernstein did not get his license to build the resort with the government's Non Nuoc Tourism Co. until the spring of 1995. BBI gets two-thirds of the venture for raising the money, getting the hotels built and finding someone to operate them. Non Nuoc gets the other third for chipping in the land.

BBI is a Maryland-based company started in 1992, largely to invest in Vietnam. Mr. Bernstein, who is president, says it has more than 100 investors, whom he declines to name. It also, he says, runs a casino and slot-machine parlor in Peru.

If BBI was frustrated by the bureaucratic delays, Non Nuoc was not all that happy with BBI either.

In April a Non Nuoc director, Nguyen Xuan Phuc, complained to a Vietnamese financial newspaper that BBI had not made a promised deposit of $2 million into the joint venture's bank account last year and said Non Nuoc might ask the government to revoke BBI's license.

The threat was serious enough that Mr. Bernstein flew to Hanoi to meet with the board and the ministry in charge of approving foreign investment. BBI and Non Nuoc later held a news conference to announce that BBI had put $100,000 into the account and that the rest would show up within 90 days.

Regarding questions this raised about BBI's financial strength, Mr. Bernstein insisted that the company "is not undercapitalized." The problems, he said, were faulty communication between the Americans and the Vietnamese partners and BBI's unfamiliarity with Vietnamese accounting practices. He said BBI already had spent more than the $2 million it promised and did not think it needed to first deposit that money in the joint account.

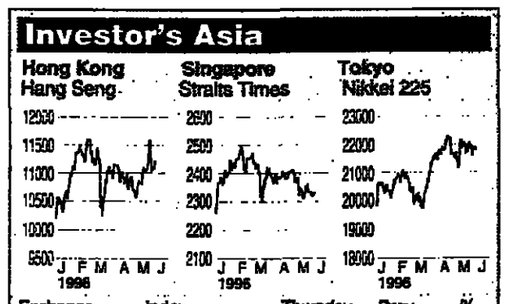
Meanwhile, BBI's agreement requires it to build everything — hotels, villas and the rest — in the next seven years.

That may be too optimistic, said Robert Hecker, director of Horwath Asia Pacific, a hotel consulting firm in Singapore. "I think it'll probably take longer for the market to absorb all four hotels," he said, with a minimum of 10 years a more realistic deadline.

So far BBI does not even have an operator lined up to run the first hotel, although it has been talking to Westin Hotels & Resorts.

"This beach and this site are naturals," said Wilke See-Tho, director of development for Westin's Asia-Pacific region. "The question is, when is it the right time?" While China Beach is a familiar name to Americans — from the Vietnam War days and from a more recent television series of the same name — it is not exactly a world-famous destination. There are no international-class hotels there, although Hong Kong-based Furama Hotel Enterprises Ltd. expects to open a 204-room four-star hotel just down the beach from the BBI site in December.

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	11,225.89	11,092.50	+1.20
Singapore	Straits Times	2,334.26	2,326.81	+0.32
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,213.80	2,229.70	-0.71
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	21,804.56	21,881.43	-0.35
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,134.75	1,135.39	-0.06
Bangkok	SET	1,283.58	1,276.61	+0.55
Seoul	Composite Index	Closed	913.25	- -
Taipei	Stock Market Index	6,019.05	5,951.88	+1.13
Manila	PSE	3,237.26	3,239.57	-0.07
Jakarta	Composite Index	613.22	616.06	-0.46
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,025.18	2,044.13	-0.93
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,830.31	3,813.05	+0.45

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Vietsovpetro**, a Vietnamese-Russian joint venture, discovered oil in a well drilled at its Bach Ho field off the coast of Vietnam, officials of the state-owned oil and gas company Petrovietnam said.
- **ABN-AMRO Holding NV** plans to move into as many as six Asian countries, including Indonesia and Thailand, to develop its consumer-banking business.
- **Magician Industries Holdings Ltd.** paid 40.8 million Hong Kong dollars ($5.3 million) for a 51 percent stake in a Chinese bottler whose only customer is Coca-Cola Co.
- **Bangkok Bank Ltd.** cut its retail deposit rates by 25 basis points, or a quarter of a percentage point, and reduced the interest rate on nonresident baht deposits by 50 basis points.
- **Nokia Oy** will supply a cellular-phone network to the Indian state of Gujarat for $40 million.
- **Broken Hill Pty.**'s petroleum division sold its holdings in four gas fields and a production asset in the Dutch sector of the North Sea to Dyas BV of the Netherlands.
- **Ericsson AB** won a contract valued at 420 million Swedish kronor ($62.3 million) to expand a mobile-phone network in China. *Knight-Ridder, Reuters, Bloomberg*

Ramos Assails Ruling in Tan's Tax Case

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MANILA — President Fidel V. Ramos said Thursday he would ask the Supreme Court to reconsider its ruling blocking prosecution of the businessman Lucio Tan and his associates over 25.6 billion pesos ($977.8 million) in unpaid taxes.

"The decision of the Supreme Court is certainly a setback," Mr. Ramos said. "It has grave implications on the government's efforts to proceed against those who violate our tax laws."

The Philippine Supreme Court on Wednesday threw out a petition filed by the Bureau of Internal Revenue asking the justices to reverse earlier rulings barring prosecution of Mr. Tan and 67 other officers of Fortune Tobacco Corp. for alleged tax evasion from 1990 to 1992.

Mr. Tan, a beer and tobacco executive with close ties to former President Ferdinand Marcos, recently reached an agreement with five government financial institutions to gain majority control of the flag carrier Philippine Airlines.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue said that decision had provided tax evaders with "a legal shelter for their criminal liability."

The tax bureau said the decision had practically reversed another Supreme Court ruling that formal tax assessments were not a prerequisite for criminal prosecution.

Teodoro Padilla, a Supreme Court justice, said the intent of the ruling was to keep the government from using dictatorial tactics against individuals. He condemned the creation of a presidential task force to prosecute Mr. Tan. *(Bloomberg, Reuters)*

Head of Bangkok Bank Is Fired

The Associated Press

BANGKOK — The president of Bangkok Bank of Commerce was fired Thursday by a supervisory panel that accused him of "serious mistakes" that pushed the bank to the brink of collapse.

Krirkkiat Jalichandra, who headed the bank for 11 years, left Thailand for Europe shortly after his dismissal, the government-appointed panel said.

The bank's lending practices came under scrutiny during a debate in Parliament last month, when opposition politicians accused government officials of tapping the bank's funds.

TV: *Murdoch's Exit to Slow Digital TV's Development in Europe*

Continued from Page 15

broadcasters — instead of renting their boxes — plan to sell them. "It is Betamax vs. VHS all over again," one analyst said — except that at this point, no one knows who the winner or winners will be.

Kirch had briefly shelved a rivalry with Bertelsmann to cooperate on development of a digital decoder, but it then opted out of a consortium in February because of unresolved differences.

For Europe's media groups, it is the battle of technologies more than anything else that has raised the stakes and the risks. Those will only grow as they gear up for the production of huge numbers of the decoder boxes.

Already, though, the biggest media groups have spent tens of millions of dollars on developing their own decoders and the software to run them. Whether they ever recoup any of it remains to be seen.

With the price of entry into the new digital-television age so staggeringly high, it comes as little surprise that groups the size of Bertelsmann and BSkyB feel driven to spread those costs as widely as possible by forming alliances. "The aim is to make money, not to fight to the death," said Claire Barbaret, an analyst with Merrill Lynch.

For that reason, no one is ruling out anything in the way of link-ups. Many point to the example of British Satellite Broadcasting and its rival satellite broadcaster, the Murdoch-owned Sky. For years they waged a fierce battle, neither with anything but red ink to show for it.

Their merger to form BSkyB, which surprised many at the time, has since proven to be one of the great media successes of the era. Today the company is hugely profitable and has a market capitalization of £7.5 billion ($11.6 billion).

As a first step along a similar road some analysts forecast that competing groups on the Continent will agree on common digital television standards. For the owner of that winning set-top technology, the rewards will be huge. At present, though, Europe's media heavyweights are racing to get their boxes on the market first in the hope of establishing an early and unassailable lead in subscriber acceptance that could force their rivals to at least abandon their decoders, if not their plans entirely.

As the only European media company that now has a digital service on the air, Canal Plus has the lead, at least in France. It is that experience which it hopes to capitalize on in the far larger German market.

"We are the only ones in Germany with a technical platform that is up and working," said Nikolaus Formanek, a spokesman for Bertelsmann, referring to the Canal Plus decoder. "We can live without Mr. Murdoch."

■ CLT Deal Nearly Completed

Cie. Luxembourgeoise pour l'Audiovisuel & la Finance said a merger between the television activities of its Cie. Luxembourgeoise de Télédiffusion unit and Bertelsmann AG unit UFA would be finalized by June 30, Audiofina chairman Jean-Pierre de Launoit said, AFX News reported from Luxembourg.

The chairman told the company's annual meeting that it "must keep to this timetable."

NET: *A New but Potentially Risky Forum for Views on Investments*

Continued from Page 15

messages are probably just the musings of individual investors, regulators say, some clearly are attempts by executives or brokers to manipulate markets.

"There are probably insiders touting stocks on the Internet either anonymously or under assumed names," said Mary Schapiro, president of the regulatory arm of the National Association of Securities Dealers, which oversees the Nasdaq market. "There is a tremendous amount of hype."

Whether that promotional froth violates securities laws or NASD regulations largely depends on who is doing it and what their motivations are.

Investors are allowed to post their opinions about a stock, but executives or brokers who spread false information or conceal their interest in an investment could be breaking the law. The question for Ms. Schapiro and other regulators is not merely how to catch these electronic violators but whether it is even possible to do so.

"The Internet is going to be an enormous challenge," she said. "I haven't given up on the idea that we can do more in the policing area, but we need to do a better job of impressing the public that you can be defrauded more easily through the Internet than through pieces of paper in the mail."

The growing influence of the Internet and on-line services is largely a function of their soaring popularity.

The Internet was still the obscure domain of scientists and government officials a decade ago, but now studies show that as many as 20 million people use the Net for tasks ranging from sending electronic mail to shopping for airline tickets. That development, in turn, has brought dramatic changes to the investment landscape. Investors who may once have exchanged stock tips at cocktail parties or subscribed to stock newsletters are now inundated with information from electronic sources whose reliability is far more difficult to measure.

Rumors swirled wildly, for instance, as Comparator rose on the market.

"From what I hear, MasterCard is going to announce an agreement" with Comparator, said one message.

"There's a rumor that this company is getting involved in the Internet," said another.

Neither rumor was true, but they were part of the cacophony of misinformation that pushed tiny Comparator's shares as high as $1.88 before they plunged to 56 cents as regulators stepped in and halted trading on May 9.

SMALL: *U.S. Investors Court Risk as Lower-Priced Shares Thrive*

Continued from Page 15

began a program to reduce paperwork for small companies that wanted to offer shares across state lines.

Under the program, an offering approved in one of the states will be considered approved in all of them.

At the federal level, the Securities and Exchange Commission has a number of initiatives under way to remove obstacles for issues of small-company shares.

Yet even as regulators focus on greasing the money wheel for smaller companies, the most important stock market for those firms, the electronic Nasdaq exchange, may soon find itself in the ironic position of making it more rather than less difficult for smaller companies to get or keep a coveted Nasdaq trading position for their shares.

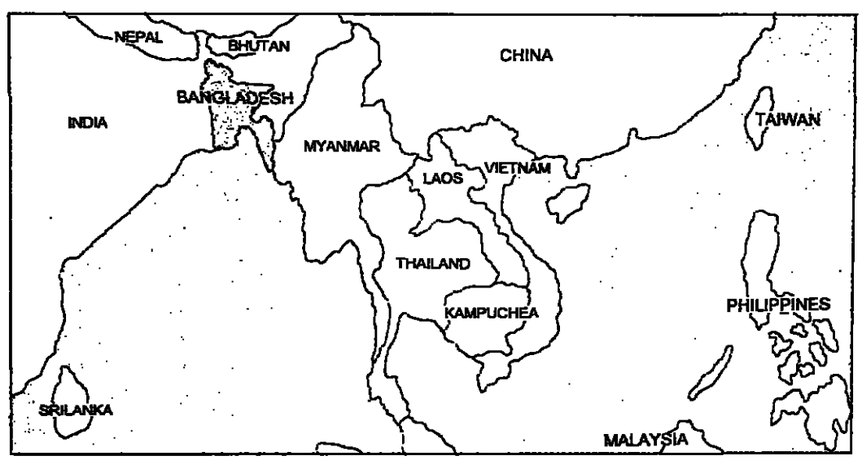
Joseph Hardiman, the National Association of Securities Dealers' chief executive, announced in May that the self-policing organization of the U.S. securities industry will study raising its standards for Nasdaq listings for the first time since 1992. In particular, he said, the review will focus on financial benchmarks that companies must maintain to keep their Nasdaq address.

Mr. Hardiman said that although the organization was "sympathetic" to small companies' desire to have visible stock listings, "we have to balance the needs of small companies with adequate protection for investors."

The SEC also wants Congress to approve a proposal that would allow small companies to "test the waters" for stock offerings, soliciting potential investors before actually going ahead with a sale.

The SEC and proponents of state initiatives to terminate the merit-review process for stock offerings by small companies insist that regulation of small stocks is merely being streamlined, not eliminated. Without merit review, fledgling companies will be able to offer stock directly to any investor, without the restrictions that have limited tens of thousands of companies to soliciting only fairly well-off investors.

The SEC points out that any untrue statement made by a company in stock disclosure statements would remain subject to federal anti-fraud provisions.



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EXPRESSIONS

NASDAQ

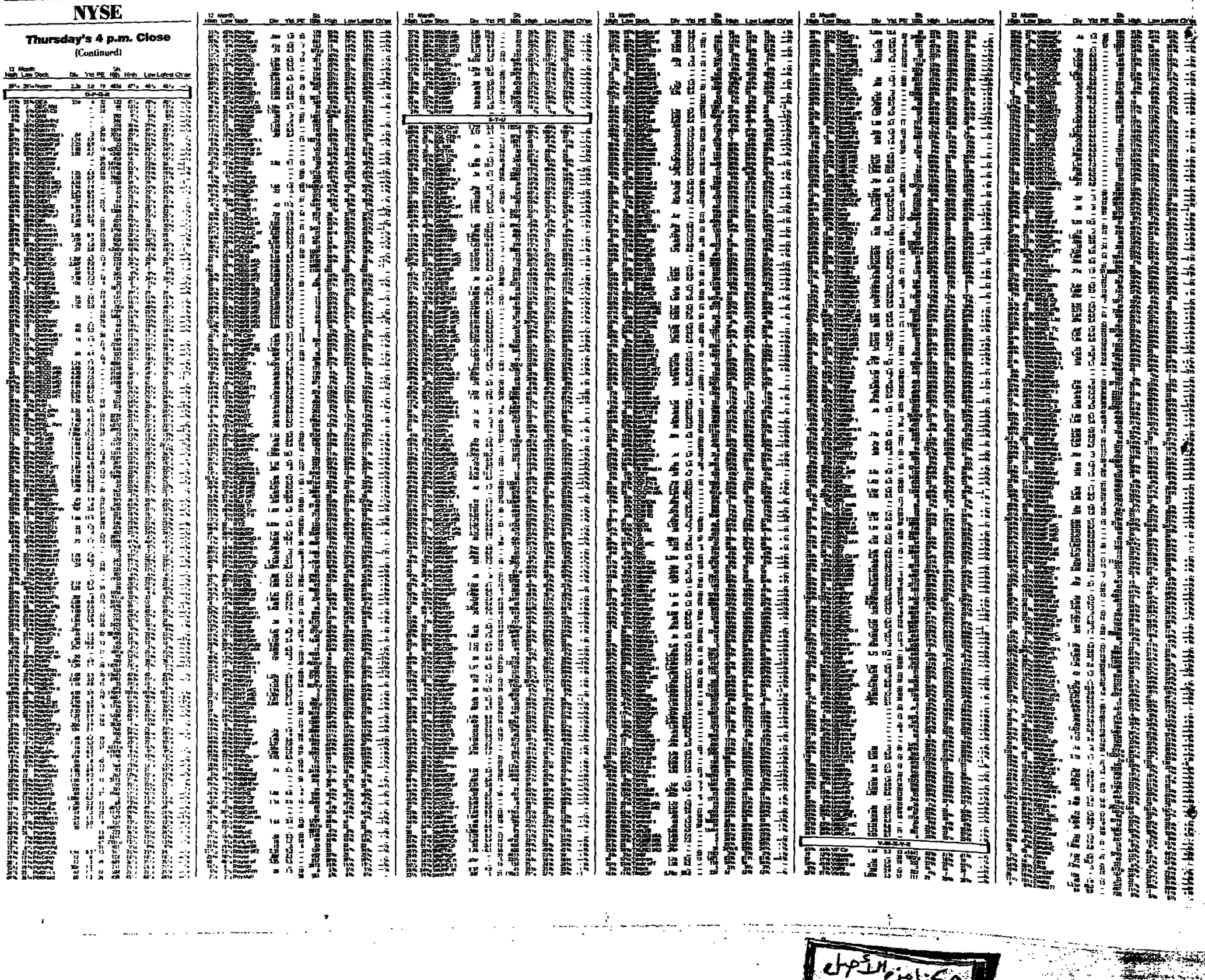
Thursday's 4 p.m.

The 1,000 most-traded National Market securities in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

NYSE

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close

(Continued)



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THE OASIS FUND SICAV
w International Equity Fund $ 9.6435

FOKUS BANK A.S.
w Fokus Intl Growth Fd $ 1.02

FOREIGN & COLONIAL EMERG MKTS LTD
[illegible]

FORMULA GROUP
d Formula Fund NV $ 104.25

FUND MARKETING GROUP (BID)
[illegible]

FURMAN SELZ FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD
[illegible]

FX CONCEPTS (BERMUDA) LTD
m Concepts Currency Fd $ 111.72
m Concepts Stat Curr Fd $ 110.94

GAIA CURRENCY FUNDS
[illegible]

GEFINOR FUNDS
w Scottish World Fund $ 547.2400

GENESEE FUND Ltd
w (A) Genesee Eagle $ 198.45

GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT
[illegible]

GROUPE INDOSUEZ FUNDS
[illegible]

GUERNSEY CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LTD
[illegible]

GUINNESS FLIGHT
[illegible]

HASENBICHLER ASSET MANGT
[illegible]

HDF FINANCE
[illegible]

HEPTAGON FUND NV
[illegible]

HERMES ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD
[illegible]

HUTZLER BROKERAGE
m Pegasus P.P. Portfolio $ 7.48

IFDC S.A. GROUP
[illegible]

INCOME PARTNERS ASSET MGT (HK) LTD
[illegible]

INTERINVEST (BERMUDA) LTD
m Hedge Hog & Conserve Fd $ 11.40

INVESCO INTL LTD, POB 271, Jersey
[illegible]

PREMIER SELECT FUNDS
[illegible]

ITALFORTUNE INTL FUNDS
w Class A (Aggr. Growth Ital.) $ 80777.00
w Class B (Global Equity) $ 13.53
w Class C (Global Bond) $ 12.36
w Class D (Ecu Bond) Ecu 11.82

JAMES RIVER CAPITAL CORP.
[illegible]

JARDINE FLEMING, GPO Box 11448 Hg Kg
[illegible]

JULIUS BAER GROUP
[illegible]

JYSK INVEST C/o JYSKE BANK DENMARK
[illegible]

KEY ASSET MANAGEMENT INC
[illegible]

KI PACIFIC ASSET MANAGEMENT INC
w KI Asia Pacific Fd Ltd $ 10.63

LEHMAN BROTHERS
[illegible]

LIBERAL S.A.S. FUNDS
[illegible]

LIPPO INVESTMENTS
[illegible]

LLOYD GEORGE MNGMT
[illegible]

LLOYDS BANK INTL (BAHAMAS) Ltd
w Lloyds Americas Portfolio $ 10.41

LOMBARD, ODIER & CIE - GROUP
d LO Swiss Opportunity CHF SF 421.42
d LO Swiss S & M Caps CHF SF 217.08

OBLIFLEX LTD (CI)
[illegible]

LOMBARD ODIER INVEST
[illegible]

MAGNUM FUNDS
[illegible]

MAGNUS BROS
w Baltic Growth Fd DM 8.23

MALABAR CAP MGMT (Bermuda) LTD
m Malabar Intl Fund $ 25.58

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL MGT
EMERGING ASIAN STRATEGIES FUND
m Class A $ 106.13

PACIFIC CONV STRATEGIES FD LTD
m Class A $ 102.32

MAVERICK (Cayman)
m Maverick Fund $ 204.3920

MCKINLEY CAPITAL PARTNERS, LTD
m The Cassidy Fund Ltd $ 108.27
m The Dauntless Fd Ltd $ 93.74

MEESPIERSON
[illegible]

MEESPIERSON UMBRELLA FUND (MPUF)
[illegible]

MERRILL LYNCH BANK (SUISSE) S.A.
[illegible]

MERRILL LYNCH EMERGING MARKETS
d Class A $ 10.76
d Class B $ 10.71

MERRILL LYNCH EQUITY / CONVERTIBLE SERIES
[illegible]

MERRILL LYNCH GLOBAL CURRENCY BOND SERIES
[illegible]

MERRILL LYNCH INC $ PORTFOLIO
d Class A $ 9.54
d Class B $ 9.54
d Class C $ 9.54

MERRILL LYNCH MEXICAN INC PORT
[illegible]

MERRILL LYNCH SHORT-TERM WORLD INCOME PORTFOLIO
d Class A $ 7.93
d Class B $ 7.93

MILLENNIUM ASSET MANAGEMENT
m Swiss Franc Currency Fd SF 1049.06
m USS Global Currency Fd $ 1072.04

MOMENTUM ASSET MANAGEMENT
[illegible]

MORVAL VONWILLER ASSET MGT Co
[illegible]

MULTIMANAGER N.V.
[illegible]

NAM FOREX MANAGEMENT
w Nam Forex Class A SF 8.65
w Nam Forex Class B $ 8.17

NEW ASIA SECUR. LTD
m Thaio Co Fund Ltd $ 5.78

NICHOLAS-APPLEGATE CAPITAL MGT
w NA Strategic Opportunities $ 141.88
w NA Flexible Growth Fd $ 284.31
w NA Hedge Fund $ 209.29

NOMURA INTL. (HONG KONG) LTD
d Nomura Jakarta Fund $ 10.63

NORTH STAR FUND MANAGEMENT
[illegible]

OLD MUTUAL INTL (GUERNSEY) LTD
[illegible]

OLYMPIA CAPITAL INTL INC
[illegible]

OPPENHEIMER & CO. INC
[illegible]

OPTIGEST LUXEMBOURG
b Optigest Glbl Fd-Fixed Inc DM 184.247
b Optigest Glbl Fd-Gen Sub F. DM 193.860

OPTIMA FUND MANAGEMENT
[illegible]

ORBIS INVESTMENT
w Orbis Global (31 May) $ 24.10
w Orbis Optimal (31 May) $ 25.24
w Orbis Leveraged (31 May) $ 33.52

ORBITEX GROUP OF FUNDS
[illegible]

PACTUAL
[illegible]

PARIBAS MULTI-MANAGER GLBL FD PLC
m Paribas Alternative Invt Fd $ 100.00

PARIBAS-GROUP
[illegible]

PARK PLACE CAPITAL LTD
[illegible]

PERMAL GROUP
[illegible]

PERPETUAL UT MNGRS (JERSEY) LTD
[illegible]

PICTET & CIE - GROUP
[illegible]

PREMIER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD
m Premier US Equity Fund $ 1597.33
m Premier Intl Eq Fund $ 1406.52
m Premier Sovereign Bd Fd $ 1219.30
m Premier Global Bd Fd $ 1723.46
m Premier Total Return Fd $ 933.84

PRIMEO FUNDS
m Primeo Fund A $ 9.76
m Primeo Fund B $ 10.21

PUTNAM
d Emerging Hlth Sc. Trust $ 57.93
d Putnam Em. Info. Sc. Trust $ 107.10
d Putnam High Inc. GNMA Fd $ 7.71
d Putnam Intl Fund $ 18.60

QUANTUM GROUP OF FUNDS
w Asian Development $ 122.00
w Emerging Growth Fd N.V. $ 252.00
w Quantum Fund N.V. $ 21620.00
w Quantum Industrial $ 178.00
w Quantum Realty Trust $ 149.00
w Quasar Intl Fund N.V. $ 192.00
w Quota Fund N.V. $ 234.00

RABOBANK
d Robo Hol Fd Dutch Equity Fl 49.3159
d Robo Hol Fd Dutch Bond Fl 49.8508
d Robo Hol Fd NLG Cash Fl 50.0983
d Robo Hol Fd BEF Cash BF 1003.0160
d Robo Sel Fd Equity Fl 49.8455
d Robo Sel Fd Fixed Income Fl 49.7712

REGENT FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
[illegible]

REIG GLOBAL FUND
w Reig Global Fund Ptas Ptas 110.020
w Reig Global Fund Ecus Ecu 105.97

REPUBLIC FUNDS
[illegible]

ROBECO GROUP
POB 973,3000 AZ Rotterdam.(31)10 2241224
d RG America Fund Fl 166.70
d RG Europe Fund Fl 151.20
d RG Pacific Fund Fl 153.90
d RG Divirente Fund Fl 52.60
d RG Bond Plus Fl 105.76
d RG Emerging Markets Fd Fl 97.20
d RG Money Plus F FL Fl 124.50

B.P. ED DE ROTHSCHILD LUX BRANCH & B.P.A. ED DE ROTHSCHILD LUXEMBOURG
LUXEMBOURG DOMICILED FUNDS
[illegible]

2) FUNDS FROM OTHER GROUPS
[illegible]

ROTHSCHILD ASSET MGMT (C.I) LTD
m Nemrod Leveraged Hld $ 866.48

SAFDIE GROUP/KEY ADVISORS LTD
m Key Diversified Inc Fd Ltd $ 12.86760
b Tower Fund Global Bond $ 10266.86
b Tower Fund Global Equity $ 11032.00

SANTANDER NEW WORLD INV.
m Commander Fund $ 123076.88
m Explorer Fund $ 120540.19

SBC CAPM STRAT PLC
m Class A $ 10000.00
m Class B $ 11589.61

SECURITY CAPITAL U.S. REALTY
m Nav $ 11.15

SKANDINAVISKA ENSKILDA BANKEN
S-E-BANKEN FUND
[illegible]

SOCIETE GENERALE GROUP
[illegible]

SOGELUX FUND (SF)
[illegible]

SODITIC ASSET MANAGEMENT INC.
[illegible]

SOFA FUND LIMITED
m Class A $ 1064.8077
m Class B DM 1044.5009
m Class C $ 1119.8776
m Class D DM 1087.2855
m The Cyrus Fund $ 17.6147

SOFAER CAPITAL INC
w Amal American Coast Fd $ 21.30
w Amal Asian Fund $ 392.06
w Amal Intl Hedge Fund $ 246.25

SR GLOBAL FUND LTD
m SR European $ 125.64
m SR Asian $ 136.58
m SR International $ 127.51
m SR European DM DM 123.21
m SR Emerging $ 113.86

STAINES FD MANAGERS (GUERNSEY) LTD
w Corr Concept Two Thousand $ 1415.60
w Al Falah Invest Co $ 1118.00

SWISS BANK CORP.
[illegible]

TAIL WIND INC
m The Tail Wind Fund Ltd $ 1451.42

TEMPLETON GLOBAL STRATEGY SICAV
[illegible]

THE FOCUS GROUP
m Ocean Strategies Limited $ 150.10
m Training Staff Offsh Ltd $ 101.38
w World Invest Abbad $ 129.92

THE SAILORS FUNDS
[illegible]

THORNTON INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
[illegible]

NEW TIGER SEL. FUND
[illegible]

THORNTON TAIWAN FUND
w Equity Income $ 11.43
w Equity Growth $ 13.95

TITAN CAPITAL MGT
[illegible]

TRANS GLOBAL FUNDS GROUP
w Trans Global Invt Plc $ 205.07
w Trans Global Invest Inc Plc $ 109.63
w Trans Global Equities Plc $ 128.19

UEBERSEEBANK Zurich
[illegible]

UNION BANCAIRE ASSET MGT (UBAM) INTERNATIONAL, NASSAU
[illegible]

CAPITAL GUARANTEED SC
[illegible]

UNION BANCAIRE ASSET MGT (UBAM) INTERNATIONAL, HAMILTON
w Dinvest Asia $ $ 937.21z

UNION BANCAIRE ASSET MGT (UBAM) INTERNATIONAL, LUXEMBOURG
[illegible]

UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND/INTRAG
[illegible]

WORLDFOLIO CAP PRESERVATION PLUS
b USD 90% Cap Preservation $ 10.56

WP STEWART GLOBAL GROWTH
w WP Stewart Global Growth $ 10.7612

Other Funds
w Actibourse Ltd $ 289.22
w Actigestion Sicav FF 331.20
f Actum Leveraged Fd SF 113.85
w Adelaide FF 1187.09
w Adelphi $ 228.55
m Advanced Pacific Strat $ 88.89
w Alexandre Glbl Invest Fd I $ 15.49
m Anna Investment SF 10393.74
w Argus Fund Bond SF 1159.99
w Argus Fund Equity SF 1283.64
w Argus Fd Ltd $ 8.32
d Asia Oceania Fund $ 14.54
m Asia Vision $ 10.00
m Asian Selection Hdgs $ 327.38
m Associated Investors Inc. $ 1050.13
m Athena Fund Ltd $ 126.7922
[illegible]

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A$ - Australian Dollars; AS - Austrian Schillings; BF - Belgian Francs; C$ - Canadian Dollars; DM - Deutsche Marks; Dkk - Danish Kroner; Do - US Dollars; ECU - European Currency Unit; FF - French Francs; FM - Finnish Mark; FL - Dutch Florin; Lit - Italian lira; LF - Luxembourg Francs; p-pence; Ptas - Pesetas; SGS - Singapore Dollars; SF - Swiss Francs; Sek - Swedish Kronor; Y - Yen;

a - asked + - Offer Prices; N.A. - Not Available; N.C. - Not Communicated; o - New; S - suspended; S/S - stock Split; * - Ex-Dividend; ** - Ex-Rts; - @ Offer Price incl. 3% prelim. charge; ' - Paris exchange; ++ - Amsterdam exchange; e - misquoted earlier; x-not registered with regulatory authority. P: Middle of bid and offered price. E: estimated price; y: price calculated 2 days prior to publication; z: bid price.

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2. From the handset of your fax machine, dial (852) 172 75 545 if you are calling from outside HK, or 170 675 545 if you are calling from Hong Kong.
3. Follow the voice instruction, and input the five digit document code followed by the hatch (#) key.
4. Press the star (*) key to receive the document. You can retrieve up to five separate documents through only one access to the system.
5. Finally, after you hear the tone, press "start" on your fax machine and replace the handset. Your information will be delivered instantly.

Herald Tribune
THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

WORLD ROUNDUP

Ravi Vora/AP

Muhammad Azharuddin, India's captain, fending off a ball.

England in Charge

CRICKET Dominic Cork took four wickets as England took the initiative on the first test against India at Edgbaston, Birmingham, on Thursday. Cork took four for 61, including the prize wicket of Sachin Tendulkar, and India was bowled out for just 214 runs.

Mike Atherton (30) and Nick Knight (27) then batted through 19 overs to take England to 60 without loss at close of play. *(Reuters)*

● One of the English establishment's more ridiculous traditions will be weakened next week when women are admitted to the pavilion at Lord's, but only for a woman's match. The north London ground is home to Middlesex County Cricket Club and two of the game's governing bodies, Marleybone Cricket Club (the MCC) and the Test and County Cricket Board.

MCC members' wives and partners will be allowed in during the women's one-day international between England and New Zealand. *(Reuters)*

United Defeats Clash

SOCCER Steve Rammel scored in the 36th and 49th minutes on Wednesday, leading D.C. United to a 3-1 victory over the San Jose Clash in Major League Soccer.

In Kansas City, the Tampa Bay Mutiny scored twice in three minutes in the second half to beat the Wiz, 3-1. *(AP)*

● Seven English soccer fans were charged with violent disorder and placed in custody until June 12. They will be in jail for England's Euro '96 opener against Switzerland on Saturday. *(Reuters)*

Schott Has One Week

BASEBALL The 10-man executive council of U.S. major-league baseball owners gave Marge Schott one week to either give up her day-to-day operation of the Cincinnati Reds or face a suspension of more than one year. *(AP)*

A Royal Dilemma

BASKETBALL A royal ball for Princess Diana at the Field Museum in Chicago clashed with the Bulls first game in the NBA finals and presented a problem for some of the City's rich and famous. Deloris Jordan, mother of one of the better-known Bulls, said she would have to leave early to make the game. According to royal protocol, no one is supposed to leave until the princess does. So Michael's mother gave the Princess a miss. *(LAT)*

Graf Sets Up Reunion on Center Court

By Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Most everyone was anticipating another reunion between Monica Seles and Steffi Graf. As it turned out Thursday — as it always seems to turn out — Graf came in from her straight-sets semifinal victory in the French Open to find Arantxa Sánchez Vicario waiting for her.

"We gave each other a high five and congratulated each other, saying, 'Saturday another one,' " said Graf, the No. 1 seed.

They will meet in the final Saturday, just as they met in the final last year, won by Graf in three sets. They will be reunited for the fourth time in the last seven Grand Slam finals. Sánchez Vicario has won one so far, the 1994 U.S.

THE FRENCH OPEN

Open in three sets. Graf survived a fright over the full distance last summer at Wimbledon, where Sánchez Vicario should have had no chance.

The sunny, fast-baked conditions on center court at Roland Garros seem to enhance Graf's power, based on her 6-3, 6-1 defeat of the No. 3 seed, Conchita Martínez on Thursday. No. 4 Sánchez Vicario might have benefited more from her semifinal, a 6-3, 7-5 drubbing of her self-destructive doubles partner, No. 10 Jana Novotna, who had knocked out co-No. 1 Monica Seles in the previous round.

Since 1987, when Graf won the first of her 18 Grand Slam titles, she and/or Sánchez Vicario have made it to the final at Roland Garros.

"We've played, I've just heard, 34 times," said Graf, who has beaten Sánchez Vicario in 26 of them. "Every single one is going to be different."

Graf finished her work in 67 minutes against Martínez, the Spaniard who also lost to her in last year's semifinal amid her continuing run of 13 defeats in 14 meetings with Graf. There was a flurry in the first set of five consecutive breaks on serve, after which Martínez had had enough. She has been able to win on the Wimbledon grass, but not here, where she should feel at home — would feel at home, if not for Saturday's finalists.

Graf, who turns 27 next week, said: "I've been really happy with the way I've been feeling. I think that's been what gave me the most pleasure, because I haven't really felt physically that well in some time. I've played six matches, and I can't ask for much better tennis than these six matches. My back's been very good for the past two, three months now."

Sánchez Vicario is the only active woman with a Grand Slam title in singles, doubles and mixed doubles. Over the last two years the Spaniard has shared three of her doubles titles with the Czech, Novotna, and they are in the semifinals of the doubles here.

"It's not that Arantxa won the match, it's that I lost the match," Novotna said. "Arantxa doesn't really do anything. She runs around the court and just brings the ball back and she's waiting for somebody else's mistake."

All seemed well for Novotna as she earned a pair of break points in the sixth game. But she wasted both of them, threw a short tantrum, and then the points began to skid away. She lost 20 out of 22, losing five successive games through the end of the set and into the second.

Throughout the next set, Novotna laughed delightedly after her best shots and tried to choke the racket head after some others. She was especially vulnerable on serves and overheads, forcing more than a few from some twisted, back-stepping positions. She tried to serve her way into a third set, but never gave herself a set point. Sánchez Vicario broke Novotna's last two service games, helped along by three double-faults. Novotna served eight double-faults in all.

At 27, Novotna hasn't won a Grand Slam title. She tried to say that her versatility was a weakness. "You have to realize that with the game I have, you have to work on so many aspects of your game," she said. "It would be so much easier just to practice forehand and backhand, a couple of serves, and that would be it. Yeah, then I would be perfect."

No: Then she would be dull.

Eric Feferberg/Agence France-Presse

Arantxa Sánchez Vicario unleashing an overhead against Jana Novotna in their semifinal at the French Open.

Holocaust Swimming Routine Is Vetoed

The Associated Press

PARIS — France's synchronized swim team had their Olympics program worked out: in black bathing suits, they would goose-step in German military style to the side of the pool. Then, diving in, they would re-enact the arrival of Jewish women in the death camps, the selection by Nazi doctors and their final march to the gas chambers.

The team's leader defended the program as art, but Guy Drut, France's sports minister, decided it might offend crowds in Atlanta.

Drut said he ordered the team to remove any "allusions to the tragedy of the Shoah," the Hebrew word for the Nazi Holocaust. "There are subjects where we cannot run the risk of communicating messages which could be misinterpreted," he said.

The team had planned to perform the four-minute program at next month's Olympics. It was to be set to music from Steven Spielberg's "Schindler's List" and to chants sung in Jewish ghettos.

"The routine is ridiculous," said Henri Hajdenberg, head of the Representative Council of French Jewish Organizations. "It's tactless and in poor taste."

Jean-Paul Clemençon, The team's technical director, said the program had "great emotional value." He added: "I'm astounded by all the criticism."

Odile Petit, the national trainer, said the routine was not unlike one performed by France's ice dancers, who recently "skated a program evoking torture in Chile."

The routine drew jeers and disapproving whistles from an audience in Amiens earlier this year.

Tawny, Taut Bodies Beautiful: The Olympics Go to the Beach

By Frank Ahrens
Washington Post Service

BALTIMORE — With its Southern California hip, slam-dunk spikes and sun-and-sand sensuality, beach volleyball enters this summer's Olympics like a heavy-metal guitar riff in a violin concerto.

The players wear skin-tight swimsuits and brutally cool wraparound sunglasses. They have perfect bodies, so deeply and evenly tanned that they appear to be dyed. Their workplace is, after all, the beach. They don't fit the traditional image of the long-suffering Olympic hopeful, training alone in the early morning with only Dad watching.

But traditions change.

A medal sport for the first time, beach volleyball has the highest profile of an entire generation of new wave, "lifestyle" sports such as mountain biking and skateboarding. Historically dismissed by traditionalists as non-sports, these participatory games have gained large followings through television and tours and may change the notion of what is and is not a "real" sport.

Moreover, as a sport that showcases youthful vigor, individual expression and a kind of mellow irreverence, beach volleyball is the perfect match for a been-there, done-that MTV generation that may find wheezer sports such as football and baseball totally beat. Indeed, beach volleyball tickets for the Atlanta Olympics have been hot sellers.

The top 54 American players will be in Baltimore through Sunday, vying for the eight remaining spots on the U.S. Olympic team (four have been chosen). At the Olympics, they will compete against teams from 19 countries on a lake beach outside of Atlanta. The game's inclusion in the Olympics is the result of six years of lobbying by professional volleyball.

Atlanta 1996

About 90 truckloads of sand were imported from Maryland's eastern shore and packed a foot deep in a parking lot in Baltimore's HarborView Complex, just east of the Inner Harbor. Grandstands and tents were raised, making room for 4,000 spectators. Three volleyball courts of traditional size were marked off and, if you took off your shoes, closed your eyes and inhaled the tanning oil, you might believe you were on a beach, not an industrial waterfront.

Unlike indoor, six-player volleyball — long an Olympic sport — beach volleyball has only two players per side, covering the same court area with four fewer players. Beach players must be more versatile than indoor players, who tend to specialize in serving, making set shots, or spiking the ball over the net. It is a highly strategic and athletic game.

The Michael Jordan of beach volleyball, Karch Kiraly, and his partner, Kent Steffes, are expected to breeze through the trials and land a spot on the Olympic team. Kiraly, 36, who won gold medals with the 1984 and 1988 U.S. volleyball teams, left the indoor sport for the beach after the last Olympics. The reasons: exposure and money.

"People didn't seem to know we existed except for two weeks every four years," Kiraly said. "We put a lot of pressure on ourselves to win because we knew that's when we'd get noticed."

John McDonnell/Washington Post

Maria O'Hara dove for a ball in tryouts for the U.S. beach volleyball team.

In the early '80s, before networks began televising beach volleyball, before heavy corporate sponsorship, a professional player could make maybe $30,000 a year. Last year, Kiraly, the top earner, made nearly $400,000 in prize money from tournaments on the professional beach volleyball tour. The two-player format greatly increases beach volleyball's star-making capacity over the six-player anonymity of the traditional game. Beach volleyball is the near-perfect symbiosis of sport and marketing. Corporations have rapt, all-day spectators staring at ads for products they're likely to buy while at the beach. The players so want exposure, they turn into walking billboards for their sponsors and are surrounded by ads for beer, suntan lotion, cameras, even athlete's foot ointment.

Unlike college basketball, where the men dunk and the women do not, there is little discernible difference between men's and women's beach volleyball. They are both powerful, aggressive games. The women, in fact, seem to be in better shape, their sharply cut muscles popping and flexing.

Some of the women are defensive about the proposition that their sport is the 90s equivalent of the 50s bikini contests. They say it diverts attention from their volleyball skills. Others recognize skin as part of the game's highly conscious marketing.

"The physical attraction of the athletes and their attire, or lack of it, are important elements to the marketing of the game," said Kerry Klostermann, who oversees beach volleyball for USA Volleyball, which will assemble and run the Olympic team. "You see men and women with a healthy, physically tuned-up, bronzed image."

On one court, Maria O'Hara, 35, kicks the sand and stalks the court. In California, she snowboards and does martial arts. She has two children and a small, silver ring in her nostril. Even after losing, she is relentlessly "up" and at ease. To a pasty, paunchy East Coaster, she might as well be from Mars.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	32	22	.593	—
Baltimore	31	23	.574	1
Toronto	26	31	.456	7½
Boston	22	34	.393	11
Detroit	13	45	.224	21
CENTRAL DIVISION				
Cleveland	37	19	.661	—
Chicago	36	20	.643	1
Minnesota	28	28	.500	9
Milwaukee	26	30	.464	11
Kansas City	26	33	.441	12½
WEST DIVISION				
Texas	35	23	.603	—
Seattle	30	26	.536	4
California	27	30	.474	7½
Oakland	26	31	.456	8½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	38	19	.667	—
Montreal	33	25	.569	5½
Florida	29	29	.500	9½
Philadelphia	28	29	.491	10
New York	24	33	.421	14
CENTRAL DIVISION				
Houston	29	30	.492	—
St. Louis	28	30	.483	½
Chicago	25	33	.431	3½
Pittsburgh	25	33	.431	3½
Cincinnati	21	31	.404	4½
WEST DIVISION				
San Diego	36	23	.610	—
San Francisco	29	28	.509	6
Los Angeles	30	29	.508	6
Colorado	24	29	.478	8

WEDNESDAY'S LINE SCORES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Texas 001 010 020—4 9 0
Milwaukee 110 020 11x—6 12 2
K.Hill, Russell (8) and L. Rodriguez; McDonald, Lloyd (7), Baze (8), Garcia (8), Fetters (9) and Matheny, Lewis (9). W—McDonald, 5-3. L—K. Hill, 7-4. Sv—Fetters (9). HRs—Texas, I. Rodriguez (7). Milwaukee, Jaha (7).

Detroit 000 013 000—4 6 0
Baltimore 001 120 02x—6 12 1
Olivares, M. Myers (7), R. Lewis (8) and Fisheryn D.Wells, A.Rhodes (7), R. Myers (9) and Hoiles, Zaun (9). W—A. Rhodes, 6-0. L—M. Myers, 0-3. Sv—R. Myers (12). HRs—Baltimore, R. Alomar (9), B.Ripken (2).

Toronto 400 224 000—12 14 2
New York 012 011 02x—7 10 2
Henigen, Castillo (7), Crabtree (8), Timlin (9) and O'Brien; Key, Hutton (5), Wickman (6), Howe (7), J. Nelson (9) and Girardi. W—Henigen, 6-4. L—Key, 2-4. HRs—Toronto, A. Gonzalez (6), Sprague (14). New York, D. Jeter (3).

Seattle 000 000 330—5 11 4
Cleveland 010 110 72x—13 13 2
Wagner, Mlicki (7), Torres (7), Guetterman (7), M. Jackson (7), Menhart (8) and D. Wilson; Nagy, Poole (7), Plunk (7), Embree (9) and S. Alomar. W—Plunk, 2-0. L—Mlicki, 1-3. HRs—Seattle, A.Rodriguez (11). Cleveland, Belle (23).

California 101 001 000—3 9 1
Minnesota 202 100 10x—14 17 1
Langston, S. Williams (4), Eichhorn (4), Holzemer (4), James (7), Percival (8) and Slaught; Aldred, Hgasak (7) and Durant. W—Aldred, 1-4. L—Langston, 3-2. Sv—Hansell (2). HRs—California, Salmon (10). Minnesota, Knoblauch (4), Molitor (5).

WEDNESDAY'S LINE SCORES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Texas 001 010 020—4 9 0
Milwaukee 110 020 11x—6 12 2
K.Hill, Russell (8) and L. Rodriguez; McDonald, Lloyd (7), Baze (8), Garcia (8), Fetters (9) and Matheny, Lewis (9). W—McDonald, 5-3. L—K. Hill, 7-4. Sv—Fetters (9). HRs—Texas, I. Rodriguez (7). Milwaukee, Jaha (7).

Detroit 000 013 000—4 6 0
Baltimore 001 120 02x—6 12 1
Olivares, M. Myers (7), R. Lewis (8) and Fisheryn D.Wells, A.Rhodes (7), R. Myers (9) and Hoiles, Zaun (9). W—A. Rhodes, 6-0. L—M. Myers, 0-3. Sv—R. Myers (12). HRs—Baltimore, R. Alomar (9), B.Ripken (2).

Toronto 400 224 000—12 14 2
New York 012 011 02x—7 10 2
Henigen, Castillo (7), Crabtree (8), Timlin (9) and O'Brien; Key, Hutton (5), Wickman (6), Howe (7), J. Nelson (9) and Girardi. W—Henigen, 6-4. L—Key, 2-4. HRs—Toronto, A. Gonzalez (6), Sprague (14). New York, D. Jeter (3).

Seattle 000 000 330—5 11 4
Cleveland 010 110 72x—13 13 2
Wagner, Mlicki (7), Torres (7), Guetterman (7), M. Jackson (7), Menhart (8) and D. Wilson; Nagy, Poole (7), Plunk (7), Embree (9) and S. Alomar. W—Plunk, 2-0. L—Mlicki, 1-3. HRs—Seattle, A.Rodriguez (11). Cleveland, Belle (23).

California 101 001 000—3 9 1
Minnesota 202 100 10x—14 17 1
Langston, S. Williams (4), Eichhorn (4), Holzemer (4), James (7), Percival (8) and Slaught; Aldred, Hgasak (7) and Durant. W—Aldred, 1-4. L—Langston, 3-2. Sv—Hansell (2). HRs—California, Salmon (10). Minnesota, Knoblauch (4), Molitor (5).

McCaskill (9), R. Hernandez (9), Simas (10), Keyser (11) and Kreuter; Sele, Gunderson (8), Garces (8), Slocumb (10), Stanton (12) and Haselman. Stanley (11). W—Keyser, 1-0. L—Slocumb, 1-4. HRs—Chicago F. Thomas (17), Ventura (12). Boston, Canseco (16), Naehring 2 (8), Jefferson (4).

Kansas City 000 021 200—5 12 0
Oakland 100 000 010—2 7 2
Haney, Pichardo (8), Montgomery (9) and Macfarlane; Johns, Corsi (7), Groom (7), Taylor (8), Mohler (9) and Stahoach. W—Haney, 4-5. L—Johns, 4-7. Sv—Montgomery (15).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Philadelphia 000 420 000—6 13 1
Chicago 000 211 52x—9 11 1
Mulholland, Borland (7), Springer (7), Bottalico (8) and Santiago; Navarro, T. Adams (6), Wendell (8) and Servais. W—T. Adams, 2-1. L—Borland, 3-2. Sv—Wendell (4). HRs—Philadelphia, Benjamin (3). Chicago, Sandberg (12), Sosa 3 (28).

Montreal 100 000 100—2 6 0
Florida 000 000 001—1 8 0
Cormier, D. Veres (8) and D. Fletcher; Rapp, Harmond (7), Nen (9) and C. Johnson. W—Cormier, 3-3. L—Rapp, 3-7. Sv—D. Veres (8). HRs—Florida, Pendleton (5).

New York 002 013 000—6 10 0
Atlanta 031 100 30x—8 9 1
B.Jones, Mlicki (5), DiPoto (8) and Hundley; Avery, McMichael (6), Clontz (8), Wohlers (8) and Perez, J. Lopez (6). W—McMichael, 3-0. L—Mlicki, 1-3. Sv—Wohlers (11). HRs—Atlanta, Co.Jones (10), Klesko (10), Blauser (8).

Colorado 000 000 001—1 5 0
Houston 001 001 02x—4 8 0
Reynoso, S. Reed (8) and Ja.Reed; Wall and R. Wilkins. W—Wall, 2-0. L—Reynoso, 3-5.

San Francisco 212 152 200—15 17 1
Cincinnati 001 110 100—4 14 3
Gardner, Boutsis (8), Creek (9) and Manwaring, Lampkin (7); Jarvis, J. Rorfin (5), Moore (5), Carrasco (9) and Taubensee. W—Gardner, 7-1. L—Jarvis, 0-1. HRs—Cincinnati, Mallola (1).

Pittsburgh 003 400 000—7 11 0
Los Angeles 000 000 120—3 6 0
M.Wilkins, Lieber (6), Christiansen (8), Mlicki (8), Cordova (9) and Kendall; Astacio, Eischen (4), Park (5), Radinsky (9) and Piazza, Prince (9). W—M. Wilkins, 1-0. L—Astacio, 3-4. Sv—Cordova (7). HRs—Pittsburgh, Martin (7). Los Angeles, Karros (10).

St. Louis 000 002 011—4 10 1
San Diego 000 000 204—6 10 2
Osborne, Honeycutt (8), Bailey (8), Fossas (9) and Pagnozzi; Ashby, S. Sanders (7), Bochtler (8), Hoffman (9) and B. Johnson. W—Hoffman, 4-2. L—Fossas, 0-4. HRs—San Diego, T. Gwynn (1).

BUD SPORTS NOTES

JUNE 7, 1913

THE FIRST HIGH PRIEST OF ALASKA, THE REV. HUDSON STUCK LEADS HIS FLOCK OF FOUR TO THE MOUNTAINTOP — THE 20,320-FOOT PEAK OF MT. MCKINLEY. THE CLIMBING CLERGYMAN BECOMES THE FIRST MAN TO REACH NORTH AMERICA'S HIGHEST POINT.

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JAPANESE LEAGUES

CENTRAL LEAGUE

	W	L	T	Pct.	GB
Hiroshima	30	19	—	.612	—
Chunichi	27	20	—	.574	2.0
Yomiuri	26	23	—	.531	4.0
Yakult	26	24	—	.520	4.5
Yokohama	23	28	—	.451	8.0
Hanshin	16	34	—	.320	14.5

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Yomiuri 8, Hiroshima 5
Chunichi 7 Hanshin 6
Yakult 5, Yokohama1

PACIFIC LEAGUE

	W	L	T	Pct.	GB
Nippon Ham	29	22	1	.569	—
Orix	28	23	1	.549	1.0
Kintetsu	28	23	0	.549	1.0
Lotte	26	27	1	.491	4.0
Seibu	24	26	2	.480	4.5
Daiei	17	31	1	.354	10.5

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Seibu 6, Nippon Ham 1
Kintetsu 10, Lotte 6

TENNIS

FRENCH OPEN

QUARTERFINALS
WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Gigi Fernandez, United States, and Natasha Zvereva (2), Belarus def. Alexandra Fusai, France, and Mercedes Paz, Argentina, 6-4 1-6 6-2.

SEMIFINALS
WOMEN'S SINGLES

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (4), Spain, def. Jana Novotna (10), Czech Republic, 6-3, 7-5.

Steffi Graf (1), Germany, def. Conchita Martinez (3), Spain, 6-3, 6-1.

MEN'S DOUBLES

Yevgeny Kafelnikov, Russia, and Daniel Vacek (7), Czech Republic, def. Jared Palmer, United States, and Jonathan Stark, United States, 6-4, 7-6 (7-4).

Guy Forget (5), France and Jakob Hlasek, Switzerland, def. Todd Woodbridge (1), Australia and Mark Woodforde, Australia, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4.

BECKENHAM TOURNAMENT

QUARTERFINALS
WOMEN'S SINGLES

Christina Singer (1), Germany, def. Erika De Lone (8), United States, 6-2 6-4; Maria Vento (6), Venezuela, def. Rika Hiraki (3), Japan, 6-4 6-3.

SOCCER

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER
WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

D.C. 3, San Jose 1
Tampa Bay 3, Kansas City 1

STANDINGS
Eastern Conference—Tampa Bay 27 points; Washington 13; Columbus 9; New England 8; New York-New Jersey 8. Western Conference—Los Angeles 24 points; Dallas 14; San Jose 13; Kansas City 12; Colorado 12.

CARIBBEAN CUP
THIRD PLACE

Martinique 1, Suriname 1. Martinique won 3-2 on penalty kicks

COPA LIBERTADORES
SEMI-FINALS, 1ST LEG

Universidad (Chile) 2, Rio de Plata (Argentina) 2

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLIES

Costa Rica 1, Canada 0
France 2, Armenia 0

CYCLING

TOUR OF ITALY

Leading results Thursday in the 18th stage of the Tour of Italy cycling race, a 65-kilometer (38.4-mile) against-the-clock test from Viareggio to Marcatica:

1, Evgeni Berzin, Russia, Gewiss, one hour, 13 minutes, 59 seconds; 2, Abraham Olano Spain, Mapei, one second behind; 3, Alexandre Gontchenkov, Ukraine, Roslotto, 46 seconds behind; 4, Pavel Tonkov, Russia Carnielle Ponoka, 1:27 minutes behind; 5, Stefano Pontoni, Italy, AXO, 2:24 minutes behind; 6, Carlo Finco, Italy, Magnifico MG, 3:02 minutes behind; 7, Pietro Urgumov, Latvia, Roslotto, 3:05 minutes behind; 8, Davide Rebellin, Italy, Team Polti, 3:20 minutes behind; 9, Zenon Jaskula, Poland Brescialat, 3:24 minutes behind; 10, Enrico Zaina, Italy, Carrera 3:47 minutes behind.

OVERALL STANDINGS: 1, Tonkov, 87 hours, 28 minutes, 22 seconds; 2, Olano one second behind; 3, Berzin, 74 seconds behind; 4, Ugrumov, 1:58 minutes behind; 5, Pontoni 2:12 minutes behind; 6, Rebellin, 2:37 minutes behind; 7, Zaina, 2:58 minutes behind; 8, Gotti, 4:09 minutes behind; 9, Alexandre Shefler, Kazakhstan, 4:44 minutes behind; 10, Claudio Chiappucci, Italy, 4:19 minutes behind.

CRICKET

FIRST TEST
ENGLAND VS INDIA, 1ST DAY
THURSDAY, IN BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND

India won the toss
India first innings: 214 (all out)
England first innings: 60-0

TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE

BALTIMORE—Sent RHP Archie Corbin to Rochester, IL.

BOSTON—Signed INF Jeff Frye.

CHICAGO—Activated INF Mariano Duncan from 60-day disabled list. Transferred RHP Jason Bere from 15-day to 60-day disabled list.

CLEVELAND—Signed OF Gary Rodriguez. RHP Albert Garza, and LHP Mike Speziali.

KANSAS CITY—Signed C Jeremy Hill, OF Brandon Berger and SS Eric Sess.

SEATTLE—Bought contract of RHP Matt Wagner from Tacoma PCL. Optioned RHP Scott Sullivan to Tacoma. Recalled OF Alex Diaz from Tacoma and put him on 60-day disabled list.

IHT Puts Baseball Stats on the Internet
All the box scores and the 1996 schedule on the IHT web site:
http://www.iht.com/IHT/SPORTS/bbl.html

SPORTS

Nets Find A Coach: Calipari

The Associated Press

BOSTON — John Calipari, who built the University of Massachusetts into a college-basketball powerhouse, is leaving UMass to coach the NBA's New Jersey Nets.

Calipari agreed late Wednesday to join the Nets, according to his agent, Craig Fenech. Calipari and the NBA club had hammered out most of the deal by Monday, Fenech added. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

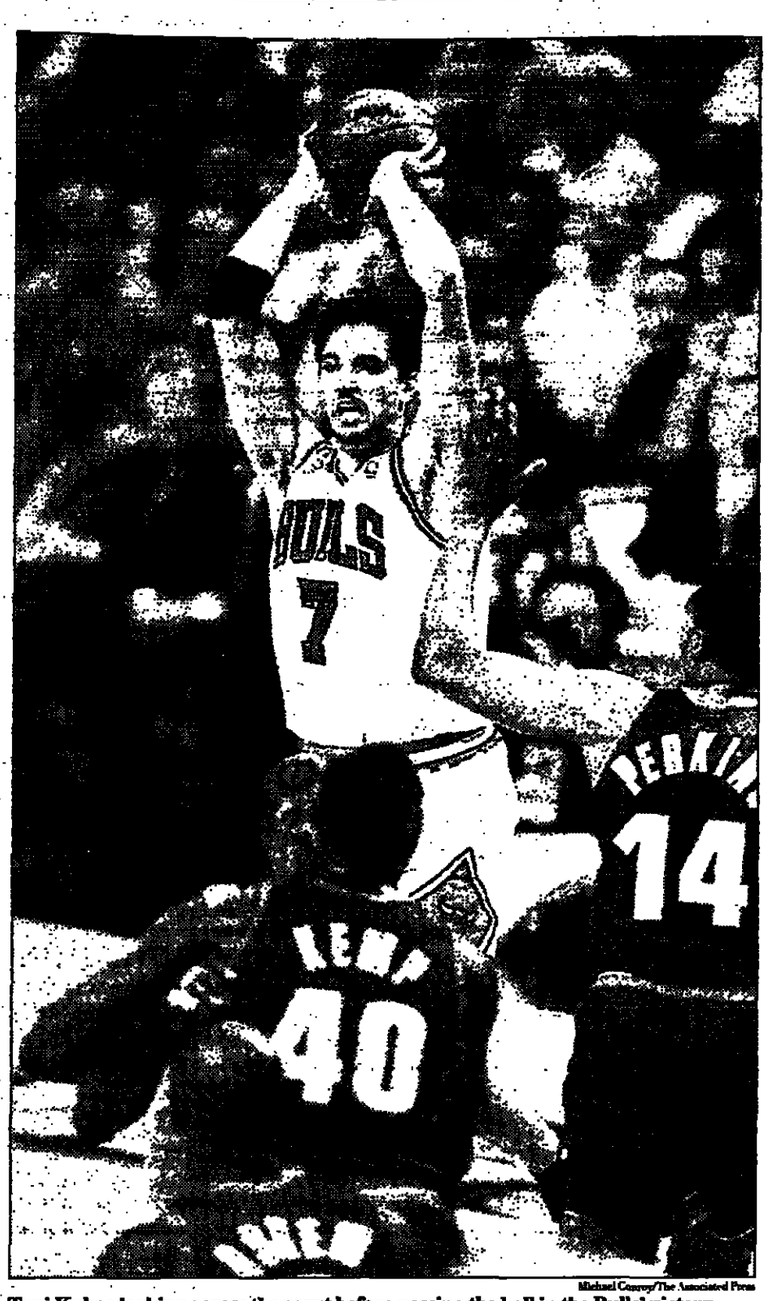
A UMass official who spoke on the condition of anonymity confirmed that Calipari had told UMass's chancellor that he was leaving to join the NBA team. A New York radio station reported that Calipari had agreed to a five-year deal.

The hiring came six days after Rick Pitino, coach of the University of Kentucky, spurned the Nets' offer of around $25 million to become coach, general manager and part-owner of the team.

Calipari's exit also came two days after a scandal broke involving UMass's best player last season, Marcus Camby. Camby admitted accepting improper gifts from an agent as a college player.

The university has begun an investigation of that matter and sanctions could result if it were found that the university knew of the violations.

Camby, meanwhile, has filed a criminal complaint in Hartford, Connecticut, alleging he was blackmailed by Wesley S. Spears, a Hartford trial lawyer whom The Hartford Courant newspaper has identified as the would-be agent who provided Camby and several of his friends with cash and gifts.



Michael Conroy/The Associated Press

Toni Kukoc looking across the court before passing the ball in the Bulls' victory.

'Croatian Sensation' Weighs In

Kukoc's 12 Points in Fourth Quarter Carry Bulls

By Michael Wilbon
Washington Post Service

CHICAGO — Once upon a time, this was Toni Kukoc's role: The Man. He was the star. In Europe they called him "The Waiter," because he sure could dish.

He made the best passes, hit all the clutch shots. He was 6 feet 11 (2.1 meters), a point guard, small forward or big forward who could also go down into the post and do a little damage

NBA FINALS

against the heavyweights. Whether Kukoc was playing for Yugoslavia or his club team, in the world championships or the European championships, he was the best player in the world not playing in the NBA.

But even then, as a teenager, he knew that the only way to be truly accepted, with no asterisk by your name, was to stand up and be counted in the NBA Finals. It was the one thing missing from the international resume of the fabulous Brazilian player Oscar Schmidt. And Kukoc, from the moment he was drafted at the end of the first round by the Bulls six years ago, dreamed the biggest basketball dream.

"People said then that the European championships didn't compare to the NBA Finals," Kukoc said, after Chicago's 107-90 victory over Seattle in Game 1 on Wednesday night. "But in that moment, the European finals were pretty big for me, and I reacted pretty good to the pressure there."

Kukoc's 12 fourth-quarter points, nine of them coming in a quick, demoralizing outburst, enabled the Bulls to break open a tight game. Game 2 of the best-of-seven final series will be played in Chicago Friday night.

The Bulls' Big Three did their thing, more or less. Scottie Pippen missed two-thirds of his shots, but scored 21 points, hit three big three-pointers, and grabbed seven rebounds. Michael Jordan scored a team-high 28 points and added seven assists. Dennis Rodman, despite foul trouble, grabbed 13 rebounds.

Ron Harper not only scored 15 points, but had a game-high seven assists and was primarily responsible for the Sonics' Gary Payton going 6 for 17 and scoring just 13 points.

CHICAGO 107, SEATTLE 90

SEATTLE	Min	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	Pts
Kemp	41	9-14	14-16	5-8	2	6	32
Schrempf	35	3-8	6-6	3-8	3	4	13
Johnson	9	1-2	0-0	0-0	0	1	2
Hawkins	35	2-9	5-5	0-3	1	2	9
Payton	47	6-17	1-4	2-10	6	5	13
Perkins	37	5-14	1-1	4-5	2	3	14
McMillen	6	0-0	0-0	0-1	1	0	0
Askew	25	1-4	2-2	0-4	1	4	5
Brickowski	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	2	0
Wingate	2	0-0	2-2	0-0	0	2	2
Snow	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Totals	240	27-68	31-36	14-41	16	29	90

CHICAGO	Min	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	Pts
Pippen	44	5-15	8-9	5-7	3	3	21
Rodman	36	3-6	1-2	3-13	2	5	7
Longley	26	5-12	4-5	1-1	1	4	14
Harper	30	6-10	2-2	3-5	7	4	15
Jordan	41	9-18	9-10	0-7	2	4	28
Kerr	12	0-5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Kukoc	27	7-13	2-3	3-4	4	3	18
Brown	3	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Wennington	10	2-2	0-0	2-3	0	0	4
Buechler	9	0-4	0-0	0-0	1	2	0
Salley	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	2	0
Totals	240	37-86	26-31	17-40	20	27	107

Seattle	18	30	29	13—90
Chicago	24	29	26	28—107

3-Point goals—Seattle 5-16 (Perkins 3-5; Schrempf 1-2; Askew 1-3; Hawkins 0-3; Payton 0-3), Chicago 7-26 (Pippen 3-6; Kukoc 2-5; Harper 1-3; Jordan 1-4; Kerr 0-3; Buechler 0-3).
Technicals—Brickowski 2; Rodman, Payton, Jordan, Plagrant foul—Brickowski. Ejection—Brickowski.

That's why even the award for being the league's best sixth man couldn't boost his spirits that much. Coming off the bench meant he wasn't on the floor with Jordan, his idol, or with Pippen.

Seattle might, just might, be able to counteract the Big Three to some degree. But when Kukoc gets it going like he did in the fourth quarter of Game 1, nobody in the league has an answer for the Bulls.

Of all the things George Karl had to prepare his team for during those 48 hours between beating Utah and taking the court for Game 1, stopping Kukoc couldn't have been high on the list.

Kukoc hadn't been lighting it up in the playoffs. He missed three games with a sprained back, and in the nine he played, he made just 36 percent of his shots. A 49 percent shooter during the season who made a very respectable 40 percent of his three-pointers, Kukoc had made 3 of 36 threes coming into the NBA Finals. It got so bad that one night during the Miami series, when Kukoc was seen pulling on a pair of Jordan's Nike's, Jordan said, "Toni, don't embarrass the shoes."

So what happens in Game 1? Kukoc decides to resume his role as the Croatian Sensation. Coaches like to talk about certain players being the "X factor," meaning someone who does something totally unexpected in the finals. Off this one night's performance, a total of five minutes actually, Kukoc may claim the X factor trophy for this series. Seattle, for all the talk about how superior the Bulls are, had been within 79-77 when the final quarter started.

Enter Kukoc. He drew the defense on a drive, and while he didn't hit the shot, he attracted so much attention that Bill Wennington was able to sneak in for the easy tip-in for an 81-77 lead. Seconds later, Kukoc rolled right off the Sonics' Detlef Schrempf and jammed to make it 83-77.

Karl, sensing the game was getting away, called time, but Seattle committed a 24-second violation. Kukoc then hit a long three-pointer, pushing the lead to 86-77. Sam Perkins countered with a three of his own, but Kukoc outdid him the only way you can: another three-pointer, plus a foul on Kemp. Four points from one shot, making it 90-80 with 9:24 to play. Kukoc would hit one more free throw and another soaring dunk.

A Long, Painful Inning for Piniella and Seattle

The Associated Press

In Cleveland, the Indians and Mariners combined for 10 runs off seven pitchers on seven walks, six singles and a hit batter — all in the seventh inning, which took 61 minutes to play.

"It was a long inning," said Lou Piniella, whose Mariners ended up on

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

the short end of a 13-5 score on a night when a lot of runs were scored in the American League. "One long, ugly inning — a six-pack inning, one that I don't want to talk any more about," said Piniella.

Cleveland got the better of the marathon, outscoring the visiting Mariners, 7-3, to break a 3-3 tie. Albert Belle hit his 23d home run and drew a bases-loaded walk to force home the go-ahead run.

Twins 14, Angels 3 Minnesota clobbered California in Minneapolis.

"Mark Langston was at 86 pitches in three-plus innings, so he was grinding it out," said the Angel's manager, Marcel Lachemann. "The next thing you know, the inning's over and it's 13-2."

Chuck Knoblauch's grand slam was the big blow in the Twins' nine-run fourth, as Minnesota swept the three-game series. Scott Aldred (1-4) won his first start since the Twins claimed him off waivers from Detroit last week.

Blue Jays 12, Yankees 7 In New York, Ed Sprague's three-run homer capped a four-run sixth inning for the Blue Jays.

Jimmy Key allowed nine hits and eight runs, seven earned, in just 4⅓ innings. But he was the happiest Yankee in the loser's clubhouse. "I'm elated," he said. "As long as my arm feels good, I'll get back to where I was." Key underwent arthroscopic surgery last July to repair a tear in his rotator cuff.

White Sox 8, Red Sox 6 In Boston, a sacrifice fly by Frank Thomas snapped a 12th-inning tie and led Chicago to its sixth straight victory.

Royals 5, Athletics 2 In Oakland, Chris Haney pitched seven strong innings and shut down the Athletics. The Royals stole four bases in six attempts, increasing their major league-leading total to 76 steals this season.

Orioles 6, Tigers 4 In Baltimore, Cal Ripken singled in the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning as the Orioles handed Detroit its 18th loss in 19 games.

Roberto Alomar went two-for-three, raising his batting average to .405. Bill Ripken also homered for the Orioles.

Brewers 6, Rangers 4 In Milwaukee, Ben McDonald pitched six solid innings and Dave Nilsson drove in two runs for the Brewers.

In National League games:

Padres 6, Cardinals 4 Tony Gwynn was mired in a slump. His bruised right heel was hurting. He was facing a pitcher tough on lefties. There was one out left and the game on the line. Gwynn came through, hitting his first home run of the year, a three-run drive off Tony Fossas that gave San Diego the victory.

Gwynn was in a seven-for-38 skid, having grounded back to pitcher Rick Honeycutt in a key spot in the eighth.

"To ground out to Honeycutt in that situation was probably the low point of my rut," Gwynn said after the game.

Cubs 9, Phillies 6 Sammy Sosa produced the 27th three-homer day for a Cub player in the club's history and drove in five runs as Chicago overcame an early 4-0 deficit. Sosa hit a two-run homer in the fourth inning, a solo shot in the sixth and another two-run drive in the seventh.

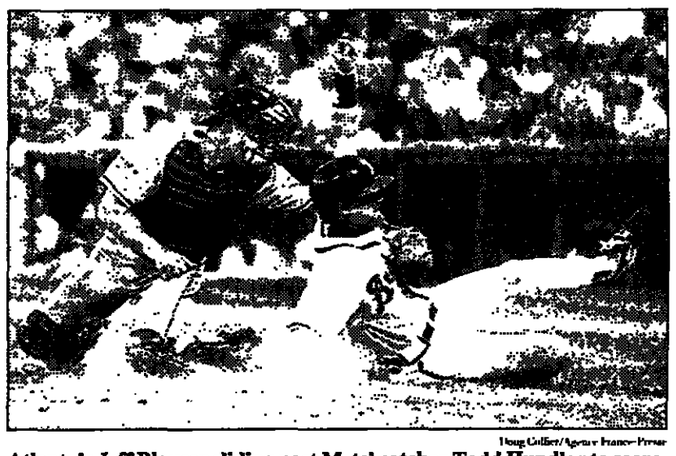
Pirates 7, Dodgers 3 Rookie Marc Wilkins, pressed into a starting role when Denny Neagle was bothered by back spasms, pitched five shutout innings that helped Pittsburgh win at Dodger Stadium. Wilkins (1-0) had never started above the Double-A level. He also got his first major-league hit and RBI.

Giants 15, Reds 4 Matt Williams and Marvin Benard each had four RBIs as San Francisco set season highs for runs and hits (17).

Braves 8, Mets 6 Pinch-hitter Tyler Houston delivered a bases-loaded triple with two outs in the seventh inning, rallying Atlanta past visiting New York.

Astros 4, Rockies 1 Rookie Donne Wall came within one out of his first shutout, pitching a five-hitter, striking out nine and walking two. Colorado did not score until Dante Bichette's single with two outs in the ninth inning. Wall also hit a single and then scored a run. On May 19, Wall took a one-hit shutout into the ninth against Pittsburgh, but was chased and came away with no decision.

Expos 2, Marlins 1 Montreal's manager, Felipe Alou, was unhappy with his team's recent 3-7 skid, so he held a pregame meeting. Then he watched the Expos win on the road.



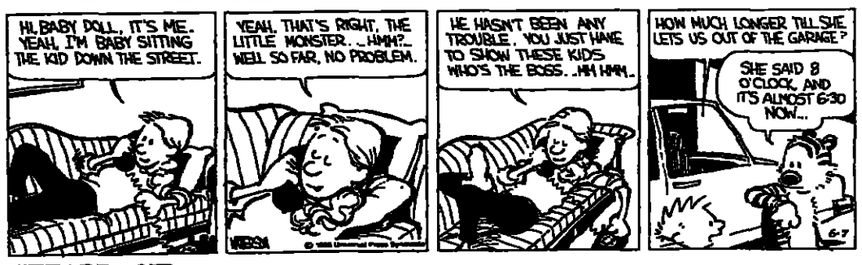
Doug Collier/Agence France-Presse

Atlanta's Jeff Blauser sliding past Mets' catcher Todd Hundley to score.

DENNIS THE MENACE

PEANUTS

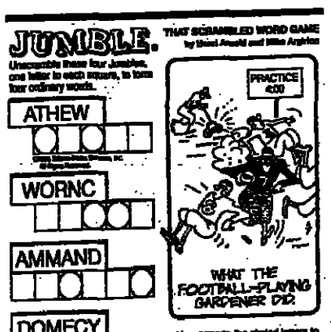
CALVIN AND HOBBES



GARFIELD

WIZARD of ID

JUMBLE



BEETLE BAILEY

THE FAR SIDE

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OBSERVER

Do They All Do It?

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — The Whitewater business is easy enough to understand: A bunch of people in Arkansas are charged with operating a small savings and loan as if it were their own property. The further suggestion is that President and Mrs. Clinton were in cahoots with this crowd when they invested in a real-estate development named "Whitewater."

Republicans have been agitating the word "Whitewater" for several years, obviously hoping it may encourage Americans to call the president a crook. This result would gratify them for two reasons:

First, since many Americans have long called the Republican President Richard Nixon a crook, nailing the Democrat Clinton with the crook word would restore the balance of billingsgate. It would also justify the classic defense of Nixon; to wit, that "they all do it." Secondly, the charge might persuade Americans to withhold votes from Clinton and create Republican bliss by choosing Robert Dole to lead us.

□

One of the ironies of the Whitewater affair lies in the trivial sum of money involved. The people who were treating the Arkansas savings and loan like a personal nest egg were pikers.

All over the country at that time, operators of savings and loans were treating themselves to millions and investing it in get-rich-quick schemes.

When the bubble burst in the 1980s and savings and loans across the country were found to have nothing in the till but dust and an occasional mouse, it was the federals, as usual, who had to bail them out. That's you, folks.

The bailout cost billions. After the government prosecuted a handful of scoundrels who had milked their businesses for millions, the scandal was allowed to die quietly, written off as an unfortunate example of something or other about which it would be unwise to upset people.

Partly this was because Democrats and Republicans, being equally to blame for the disaster, chose to play it pianissimo. But now, how's this for delicious irony: Suppose — just suppose, mind you — it turns out Clinton actually was conspiring with the Little Rock savings-and-loan crowd. His defenders would be superbly positioned to take the Nixon line: "They all did it."

The money involved in Whitewater is peanuts compared with what the big-time savings-and-loan swindles involved. It is a sum that brings to mind Ross Perot's contemptuous dismissal of Bill Clinton's record as governor of Arkansas. Arkansas, said Perot, was just "a little Mom and Pop state."

Small though the money was, Whitewater is now a bigger deal than the multibillion-dollar savings-and-loan scandals ever were. Which shows a president's power to get attention. So what are the Republicans' chances of a big political score? Probably not too hot. Ignorance may make the American voter an easy mark for demagogues, but few subjects bore him quite so thoroughly as the technical aspects of money.

How can Republicans make Americans care enough about a money story to keep the country from going glassy-eyed and slipping into the Land of Nod?

New York Times Service

The Twilight of Talk Shows: Send In the Games!

By Paula Span
Washington Post Service

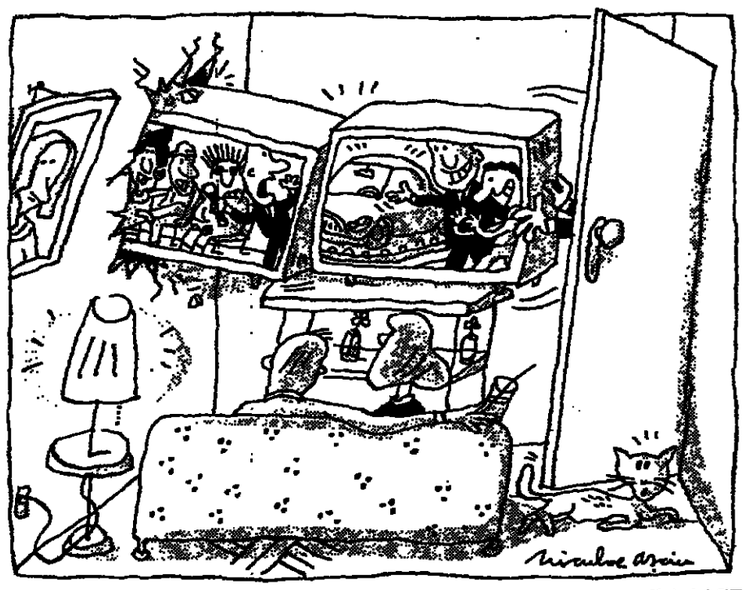
WASHINGTON — It had to happen eventually. After several television seasons in which an astonishing variety of people decided to host syndicated talk shows for fun and profit — comedians and faded movie stars, a best-selling author, a former Planned Parenthood president, the onetime mayor of Cincinnati — the twilight of talk is descending.

All but one of the nine shows that debuted last fall, many of them "Ricki Lake" clones with precocious young hosts, have been yanked; the other's demise is reportedly imminent. Ratings for a number of established shows tumbled, too, as market saturation struck at last. "They were cannibalizing each other," says Joe Flint, who follows syndicated television for Variety. "How many times can you watch 'My Girlfriend's Sleeping With My Boyfriend'?"

And what bold new idea will be introduced to enliven daytime and early-evening TV? Syndicators and cable networks are reviving that old staple, the 30-minute, bells-'n'-buzzers game show. Half a dozen will be competing for viewers this fall in the United States, with an even bigger wave of games poised to flood airwaves in the fall of 1997. Programmers, says Dick Kurlander of Petry Television, a "rep firm" that sells commercial time on behalf of local stations, are "intrigued with the possibility of striking gold with another 'Wheel of Fortune' or 'Jeopardy!' "

The first entry made its debut this week, hosted by the ever-beaming Wink Martindale: "Debt" (Lifetime channel) is full of time-tested elements — a game board with categories, alarmingly ebullient contestants, elimination rounds, shouted advisories from the audience — but it offers a different kind of payoff. Winners get several thousand dollars with which to eradicate real-life loans or Visa balances, which allows the announcer to proclaim the venerable Martindale "the Crown Prince of Credit! The Duke of Debt!"

Later this month, USA Network plans to unveil one of several relationship games, indicating perhaps that the boyfriend-girlfriend and your-cheatin'-heart themes so integral to talk shows aren't going away. "The Big Date," on which a contestant poses silly questions to three members of the opposite sex and chooses one — sound familiar? — will be hosted by Mark Walberg, a young hopeful whose talk show was canceled this season.



Nicolaus Aaslet/IHT

By fall, there'll be no place to hide. Updated versions of "The Dating Game" and "The Newlywed Game" will air back-to-back on 160 stations nationwide. Tribune Entertainment, which syndicates "Geraldo!," is unveiling still another date show, called "BZZZ!" because of the buzzer with which a contestant can dismiss a candidate who's insufficiently datable. (Yes, it is the unholy offspring of "The Dating Game" and "The Gong Show," Tribune President Dick Askin acknowledges. "A little more polite, but it's the same principle.")

Thirty stations have signed on to produce local versions of "Know It Alls," invented by former NBC programming chief Brandon Tartikoff, now in its third successful season in New Orleans (where it was called "N.O. It Alls"). The idea is to ask questions based on local lore, personalities and culture (cooking and restaurants are big categories in the Big Easy), thus drawing local audiences and, not coincidentally, local advertisers.

There's more. Tribune has acquired the right to revive and revamp the Mark Goodson hits of bygone decades: "The Match Game," "Tattle-Tales," maybe even "Beat the Clock." Tartikoff is pitching "Big Deal," a younger and more preposterous updating of "Let's Make a Deal," to Fox as a prime-time show, possibly with a syndicated daytime version to follow. "It's sort of the Indiana Jones version," Tartikoff says. In the pilots shot for Fox, "we smashed cars. We had men dressing as women. We had a mechanical bucking bull, like in "Urban Cowboy." " And no one was in costume except for Little Richard, who was part of the show.

There's even talk of the ultimate cross-promotion, a game show that would simultaneously boost both washed-up celebrities and that proliferating theme restaurant: "Planet Hollywood Squares."

As with most TV trends, we've been there before. The game show, says Kurlander, "has as great a failure rate as talk shows — it's just that we have a short memory." A raft of games crashed and burned in the late '80s and early '90s, including "Monopoly," two different attempts to syndicate "The Price Is Right" and "Trump Card" (a genuflection to that ultimate '80s guy, Donald Trump).

But with the "yak pack," as Variety refers to talk shows, in deep trouble, programmers have been casting about for alternatives. Not all the yakkers are floundering: Queen Oprah actually improved her ratings this season, with Montel Williams and Sally Jessy Raphael gaining ground as well. But the February "sweeps" data show that Jenny Jones lost roughly a quarter of her target audience (women ages 25 to 54) since February 1995. Ricki Lake's ratings among women ages 18 to 34 fell 14 percent in "early fringe" time periods (late afternoon through early evening), and almost a third in markets where her show airs earlier in the day. Geraldo Rivera and Maury Povich also took ratings hits. [Povich will be teaming up with his wife, Connie Chung, in a syndicated news program to debut in 1998.] Phil Donahue closed up shop altogether.

As for the Class of '96, invading an already glutted field last fall, Tartikoff calls theirs "the 0-for-9 season." Gabrielle Carteris of "Beverly Hills, 90210," singer Carnie Phillips, George Hamilton and his ex-wife, Alana . . . gone, all gone.

No one in the business can recall quite this level of carnage in a single season. It has less to do with anti-talk fulminations by William Bennett, people in the business say, than with "too many shows in search of too small an audience," says Tribune's Askin, who at one point last year counted 23 talkers on the air.

The upheaval hasn't prevented the advent of new talk shows — Rosie O'Donnell's morning show will premiere Monday — but there are far fewer than in past years. They're far tamer, too: Hollywood gossip seems to have replaced ritualized confession as the favored format of new programs.

Like talk shows, games are relatively cheap to produce, especially compared with magazine shows like "Inside Edition." A half-hour game show shown five times a week may run $2 million to $2.5 million a season to produce, Kurlander estimates; an hour-long talk show with a new and unproved host might cost $4 million.

Moreover, few game-show hosts, despite the occasional Alex Trebek or Pat Sajak, receive the enormous paychecks that talk hosts can command when their Nielsens ignite. As the saying goes, the game is the star — a fact producers find reassuring. "If you can create one, it's like digging an oil well," says Tartikoff. "It'll gush and gush."

Gary Cameron/Reuters

The Pop artist Peter Max was indicted on conspiracy and tax fraud charges.

PEOPLE

THE wife of **Kurt Cobain** is sick of fans gawking at the site in Seattle where he committed suicide. The carriage house where the lead singer of the band Nirvana shot himself will be torn down in hopes of keeping away the throngs of fans visiting every day, said **Courtney Love**, lead singer of the band **Hole**. Love told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer that fans are endangering the safety of her and Cobain's 3-year-old daughter, **Frances Bean**, who lives with her at the turn-of-the-century mansion she and Cobain bought a few months before he died in April 1994.

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The Pop artist **Peter Max**, whose psychedelic posters hit it big in the 1960s and who designs for everything from jazz festivals to the Super Bowl, was indicted in New York on conspiracy and tax fraud charges. Max, whose work includes the Yellow Submarine image that accompanied the **Beatles'** hit song and movie, was charged along with the accountant who was the comptroller of his art business from 1990 through 1993. The indictment alleges, among other things, that Max did not report income he received from more than $1.1 million in art sales on his personal federal income tax returns for the years 1986 to 1991.

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A record by the LSD advocate **Timothy Leary**, who died of cancer last week, will be released in three weeks, Daily Variety magazine said. The compilation of songs by the 1960s icon and singer-producer **Simon Stokes** was completed two weeks ago. A book Leary finished days before he died, "Design for Dying," will be published early next year.

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The **Duchess of York**, fresh from her divorce from **Prince Andrew**, has signed a contract with Simon & Schuster to write a book about her life, based on "therapeutic" notes she made to herself during her marriage. The company would not say how much it was paying or who would be co-author. But publishing sources told Reuters that the deal was for just over $1.3 million, a bargain compared to what some other newly famous women were getting in book contracts — $4.3 million for **O.J. Simpson's** prosecutor **Marcia Clark** and $3 million for comedian **Rosie O'Donnell's** life story — even though neither ever married a prince. Part of the bargain price may be due to a confidentiality agreement the duchess made with **Queen Elizabeth** not to reveal the secrets of the House of Windsor.

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Diana Rigg is getting what may seem a pittance to some for her part in a new production in London, but she's not complaining. The actress is appearing in a new production of "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" with **David Suchet**. Each is getting $275 a week, the minimum weekly rate. "It's all they can afford to pay," she said. "You have to subsidize work like this by doing TV work and commercials when you can get it. I don't feel I am being ripped off for one moment. It is a wonderful play." The six-week run begins on Sept. 11 at the Almeida Theatre.

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Robert Mosbacher Sr. and his socialite wife, **Georgette**, have ended their marriage — his third and her second — after 13 years. Both filed for divorce in Houston, a family spokesman said. No reason was given. Mosbacher served as commerce secretary for his close friend, **George Bush**. Mrs. Mosbacher, well-known in Washington and New York social circles, is the former owner of La Prairie, a line of cosmetics.

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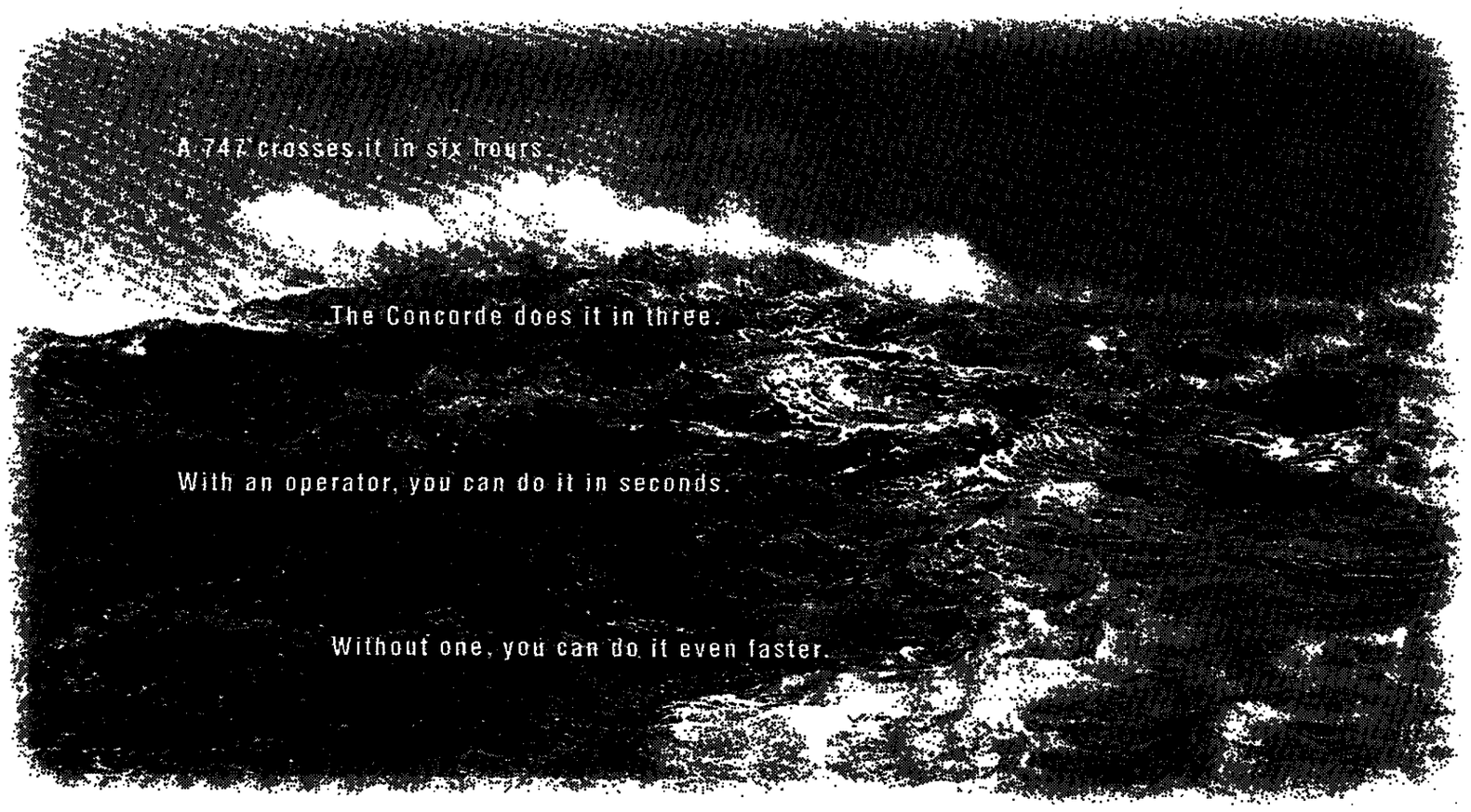
The filmmaker **Stephen Kessler** is suing **Michael Crichton** and his wife, **Anne-Marie Martin**, who co-wrote the blockbuster movie "Twister," accusing them of stealing his screenplay. Kessler is seeking all the movie's profits. "Twister" has taken in $168.9 million in its first four weeks at the box office.



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